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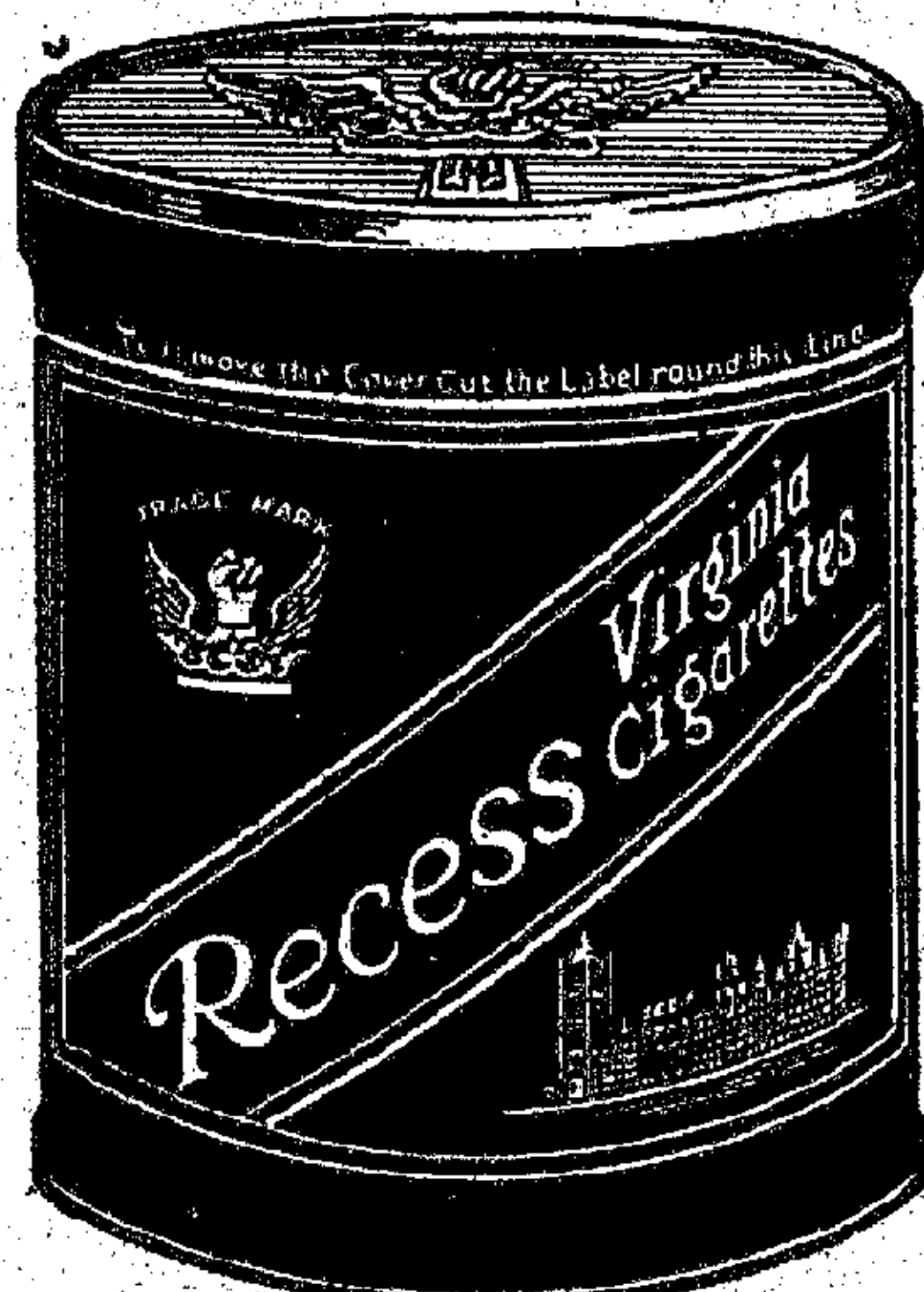
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PEKING NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PEKING, November 23rd.

FINANCIAL.

The event of the week has been the announcement that the Continental Commercial Bank of Chicago has, with the support of the Washington Government, concluded a loan of one million sterling to the Chinese Government. The loan is to be issued at 97½ and to bear interest at six per cent. and the security is the Wine and Tobacco taxes. There is no doubt that full Parliamentary assent will be given to this loan.

I have been informed that the shareholders of the Chicago Bank are mostly Germans, and it has been suggested that this is another Hui expedient for maintaining Teutonic influence in China. Without wishing to ascribe any virtue to the enemy, I think we may be permitted to doubt this. The transaction is purely a financial one. But there are other points which might be mentioned. The loan is of a nature which meets with the disapproval of the Consortium Bankers, and cannot be very acceptable to the American firm of Lee, Higginson & Co., the bankers who disposed of Chinese Government bonds a few months ago on very advantageous terms. Still, the Government may possibly have all financial needs met from this source, as it is believed that the Continental Commercial Bank of Chicago could put up 100 million dollars, the amount of the loan which China would require for re-organisation purposes. If the Chicago bankers can oblige to this extent, then there is no occasion to consult the Group Bankers in the matter, but, should the American financiers find themselves unable to advance such a large sum as indicated, the last condition of China would be worse than the first. Guarantees that would be acceptable would not be easily found, and it is not improbable that in such a contingency some form of foreign intervention would become absolutely necessary to save China from herself. An International Commission for the supervision of the national finances may be derogatory to the dignity of a sovereign State, but if China cannot make proper use of the money loaned to her then, in the interests of the lenders and of the borrowers, such supervision becomes an immediate necessity. What graver indictment could be laid than the culpable mismanagement which was responsible for the two national banks being forced to discredit their own note issues, thereby shaking the national credit and dislocating trade and commerce throughout the country? After five months the embargo was removed from the Bank of China, but not from the Bank of Communications. Yet the attempt to rehabilitate the national credit, as seen in the so-called resumption of specie payments by the Bank of China, cannot yet be described as successful. The run on the bank for silver, which must have been anticipated, is proving a serious embarrassment, and the Bank has had to modify its original scheme. Now it only pays one-tenth silver of any notes presented for redemption. It is true that the long queue is no longer seen outside the head office of the Bank, but that does not indicate confidence in the institution. A foreigner who opened an account in this bank on the resumption of the specie payments found to his mortification yesterday that the cheque which he had drawn on the Bank was returned with the statement that it could not be collected. Money-changers, too, decline to handle the notes. Were they to discount them they would be liable to police prosecution. Therefore, they simply refuse to handle them. The notes of the Bank of Communications, which rose to 91 in sympathy with the rehabilitation of the note issue of the Bank of China, have dropped to 87, and may go down a point or two more. Enough has been said to show the financial chaos for which Peking is responsible, and to indicate the conditions which might call for action on the part of the Foreign Powers interested.

RECONSTRUCTING THE CABINET.

Last week I hinted that the reconstruction of the Cabinet was imminent. The correctness of that forecast is borne out by the events of this week. The former Secretary of State, Mr. Hsu Shih Chang, has come up to Peking and has had several interviews with the President, the impression created being that there was a perfect understanding between the President and Mr. Hsu and that changes would be brought about which might reasonably be expected to result in a more harmoniously working administration. Opinion is divided as to whether Mr. Hsu would become Premier or not, but it may be assumed that he will not do so as long as Marshal Tuan Chi-jui prefers to continue in the position, especially as the two men are on terms of friendship.

The visit of Mr. Hsu has been productive of two important results already. The obstinate Sun Hung-yi has been dismissed from his office as Minister of Interior, and, wonderful to relate, there was no apparent attempt "to save his face." The mandate boldly ordered him to vacate his office. There was no granting of sick leave nor permission to bury his father or any other suitable dead relative. Nor was he ordered to vacate the post in order to take up another, although his name has been mentioned in connection with the Directorship of the Bureau of National Conservancy.

The dismissal has, indeed, come as a shock to the gentleman and his friends. The second important result of the Former Secretary of State's visit to the capital is that the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, Hsu Shu-cheng, who had become obnoxious to the Kuomintang, has been induced to send in his resignation, which was "accordingly accepted by the President, who appointed Chang Kuo-kan as his successor. The latter has held portfolios in previous Cabinets since the Revolution. The removal of these two men must be con-

sidered a triumph for the Kuomintang, but the interesting fact associated with the proceedings is that they have been accomplished through the medium of a politician of the old school, Mr. Hsu being one of the most conservative of the older generation of administrators. However, he seems to have inspired President, Parliament and people with confidence in his disinterestedness and tact, a confidence which will certainly not be misplaced. Other changes are not improbable.

"YOUNG CHINA."

The overthrow of the Manchu dynasty and the establishment of the Republic were regarded as the preliminaries to a rejuvenated China. Yuan Shih-kai may or may not have interfered with the plan of progress, but, at any rate, the restoration of Parliamentary institutions was to herald the day of Young China, the day when the western-trained Chinese would apply here the political, industrial and economic doctrines which they had acquired abroad. Alas! young China has proved to be just as Chinese as the older generation. Corruption and bribery are rampant as ever, and a perfect English-speaking, immediately western garbed Chinese official is, generally speaking, no better in this respect than his predecessor who spoke only his own tongue and did not know the sartorial delights of the Occident. Young China has been tried and found wanting. This is so on its own admission. Who are the men called upon to help the country in the present time of deadlock and trouble? Not the smart glib-tongued members of Parliament, whose political sagacity and high-souled patriotism have been so often proclaimed from the hustings, or, to be more precise, in their own party organs. No, the "young China" of the moment is composed of the septuagenarian Hsu Shih-chang and Wu Ting Fang, whose combined ages are not far short of 150 years. Another "young" man of seventy is mentioned for the Ministry of Communications when the present incumbent vacates it either by retirement or dismissal. The Premier himself has reached the allotted span, and his chief officers are men almost as "youthful" as himself. Obviously, the day of Young China has not yet arrived.

THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS.

An anomaly of Republicanism is apparently to be set up in China in the form of Kuo Lao Yuan, or Council of Elder Statesmen, which is expected to be constituted by Parliament. This is a proposition of the Government for an extra-constitutional body of advisers akin to the Genro of Japan, and the extraordinary fact that it is proposed by an ultra-constitutional President and likely to be approved by an ultra-democratic Parliament does not seem to disturb any of the Chinese publicists, with the exception of Sun Yat Sen, who has written a long letter objecting to the establishment of such a body. But his is a voice crying in the wilderness.

THE LOU HSI-KAI AFFAIR.

Since the friendly offices of Sir John Jordan in the Franco-China dispute about the seizure of the Lou Hsi-kai by the French authorities ended without result, there have been no further negotiations between the representatives of the two Governments. This may be explained, of course, by the natural disposition to wait until Wu Ting Fang comes to Peking to take up the tangled skein of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Meanwhile, the French community in Tientsin is being made to suffer all the public and domestic inconveniences of a general strike on the part of their Chinese employees. The public services are suspended—there is no electric light, the streets are unswep, police duties have to be undertaken by Annamite soldiers with no knowledge of the Chinese language, and so on; while families are reduced to great plights by the departure of cooks, boys, coolies, and amahs. The boycott organisation is fairly powerful, wealthy Chinese assisting their brethren in humbler walks to vindicate their national dignity in this typically Chinese manner.

CHANG HSIUN.

The pig-tailed general is still a force in the land. His birthday fell this week, and the President and the Premier sent congratulations and gifts to him. It would be interesting to know how the very young Kuomintang members of Parliament regard this recognition of Chang Hsiun.

THE CALL OF DUTY.

Leonard Clarke is the first of the members of the Peking British Volunteers to fall in the great adventure in Europe. He was only nineteen. He went to England some eighteen months ago and obtained a commission. Reports showed that he had been well, but this week the British community in the North were grieved to learn that he had been seriously wounded, and, later, that he had succumbed.

A number of other members of the Peking British Volunteers have been selected for commissions and will leave fairly soon on the special work for which they have been engaged. Their departure will mean a serious depletion of the ranks of the local company.

Sergeant Kellacher, the popular Scottish instructor, is now wanted for the Hankow Volunteers and will leave for the Yangtze port in a week or so.

The Peking Volunteers are holding their first rifle meeting on Sunday, when two cups will be competed for.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The visit of the Howitt Phillips Company to Peking for four nights proved very successful. It was interesting to note the number of Chinese who patronised the company.

Local British Theatians will produce "Jane," under the auspices of the Peking branch of the Patriotic League, next Wednesday.

The British ladies of Peking do well in knitting "socks for soldiers," forty pairs being dispatched to the front regularly every week.

MARINE COURT POWERS.

SEQUEL TO FIRE AT KOWLOON DOCKS.

THE S.S. "POLAVEN."

Legal argument regarding the Hongkong Marine Court's jurisdiction to enquire into an outbreak of fire on the s.s. *Polaven*, when the vessel was in the Kowloon Docks on November 2nd, was resumed at the Marine Court yesterday.

The *Polaven*, which was being converted into an oil vessel for the Asiatic Petroleum Company, caught fire in the engine room, and considerable damage was done.

The enquiry was held at the instance of the Asiatic Petroleum Company, for whom Mr. F. C. Jenkin (instructed by Mr. Hooper) appeared, and the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company was represented by Mr. H. W. Looker.

The Court was comprised of:—Commander Beckwith, R.N., Commander Gibson, R.N., and Captain Walker.

At the previous hearing Mr. Looker contended that the Marine Court had no jurisdiction in the case, and an adjournment was made to allow Mr. Looker to prepare argument to support his contention.

At the outset of yesterday's proceedings the President mentioned that since the last sitting of the Court in connection with that case, he had received a letter from Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon & Harston, asking if there was any information showing that the master, officers or any of the crew of the *Polaven* were on board at the time of the fire. Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master replied to the effect that when the fire occurred neither the master nor crew were on board. As to the question of articles, the letter added, that had been referred to the Admiralty.

Mr. Looker then went on to say that that inquiry was into damage which happened to a ship by fire at a time when she had neither master, officers, nor crew on board, nor were there any articles existing on which any master or officers were borne.

Mr. Jenkin—that is not a correct statement. There are articles at present existing.

Mr. Looker proceeded that he still maintained that there were no articles existing on which any master, officers or crew were borne. He went on to contend that there was no power in the local Ordinance to investigate a case of that kind. In this connection his first point would be that the Ordinance (Part 5, section 19) must be read purely in a nautical sense. That was apparent from the whole Ordinance. Again, the Court must be satisfied that there was some question of the safety of life and property before it had jurisdiction to investigate the case. And if there could be no question involved of safety and life and property in the course of navigation, then there was no jurisdiction to investigate. This was emphasised by sub-section 2, which dealt with the substitution of the Marine Court. The Court was to be constituted by a Commanding Officer of the Navy, a Master in the British mercantile marine, and other persons, engineers or others of engineering knowledge or possessing any special skill. It was clear from that that the Court must consist of persons who were experienced in all nautical questions; and it necessarily followed, he submitted, that the investigation, if held, must be one in which a nautical question was involved. It was purely a question of safety of life or property which empowered jurisdiction to investigate. Therefore the Marine Court had only power to investigate shipwrecks, or casualties as referred to in sub-section 4. This laid it down that for the purposes of investigation in that port (Hongkong) a shipping casualty shall be deemed to occur when in or near the coasts of the Colony any British or Colonial ship has been lost, abandoned, or materially damaged; and he submitted that the words "materially damaged" must be read in conjunction with "lost or abandoned." And the casualty there referred to was a casualty which occurred in the course of a ship's navigation, and when, in the course of navigation, she is "lost, abandoned or materially damaged."

Again, power of investigation came when or near the coasts of the Colony any British or Colonial ship has been stranded or damaged, and the word "damaged" had to be read in conjunction with the word "stranded." It was only on such occasions that the Marine Court could hold an inquiry. If a ship were at anchor, or in dry dock, and was having her machinery repaired, and during the course of that work the derrick snapped and the heavy machinery which was being lowered crashed through the bottom of the vessel, that surely did not come within the scope of the Ordinance; for the whole work was being carried out by shipwrights, and the ship had no master or officers. All the Court could deal with was safety of life and property at sea with a view to protecting everyone concerned. A Marine Court, further, could inquire into definite charges, previously formulated, of incompetency or misconduct on the part of the captain, officers or crew whether a casualty had occurred or not. The Ordinance only authorised investigations in cases where a master, officers or crew actually existed, and it was not authorised where they did not exist, as in this case. When there was no person to be served it was natural that an inquiry could not be held. Mr. Looker went on to say that if the inquiry were held it would inevitably tend to prejudice future proceedings which were threatened in respect of the fire which occurred. He then read two letters in which it was stated that Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, on behalf of the Asiatic Petroleum Company, held the Dock Company responsible for the damage which was caused. The prejudice which (Continued at foot of next Column.)

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

News has been received in Kobe by cable says the *Japan Chronicle* of the death at the front of Mr. G. W. Hawkins, who was for some time in charge of the Yokohama office of Messrs. Samuel & Co., and of which firm he was a managing director. A very brilliant business-man, he was very popular with his staff, and the news of his death in battle will be received with real regret.

News has been received from the War Office by Mrs. Martinson, says the *N.Y.C. Daily News*, that her son was again wounded on November 24th. He had been back in France a month, after being on five months' sick-leave recovering from his first wound.

Second-Lieutenant F. M.F. Ross, Royal Scots, who has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry during a raid, is the youngest son of the late Rev. J. Ross D.D., of Muelken, and brother of Mrs. McClure Anderson, of Tientsin.

HONGKONG RESERVES.

ORDERS BY MAJOR WARMAN, O.C., R.E.V.R.

Tuesday, 5th December.—The following members of "A" Co. will parade at Blake Pier at 3.30 p.m. for Musketry Drill:—Ptes. A. G. Coppin, A. J. J. Brock, J. Carr, T. W. Mackay, A. R. F. Raven, N. E. Kent.

(Sgd.) G. K. H. BARTON, Captain, Adjutant, R.E.V.R.

Hongkong, 4th December.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

INTER-SERVICES SHOOT.

Musketry Sergeant Fisher will arrange and skipper the Police Reserve Team in the above Boxing Day Shoot.

PARADES.

Tuesday, December 5th.—No. 2 Company, Wednesday, December 6th.—All Recruits, Thursday, December 7th.—Nos. 3 and 4 Companies, Also Ambulance Platoon, Friday, December 8th.—Nos. 1, 3 and 4 Sections of No. 2 Company.

AMBULANCE PLATOON.

Will parade in uniform at Central Station at 5.30 p.m. on each Thursday during December for Squad Drill.

"POLICE RESERVE GAZETTE."

The Editor will at any time be glad to receive Cartoons or other humorous drawings suitable for publication in the above "Gazette."

(Signed) F. C. JENKIN,
D.S.P. (R.).

would result would be that the other side would hear the whole of the evidence on which they relied to defend any claim. That was the object of bringing the case before the Marine Court, he thought. Mr. Looker concluded by remarking that it was not in the province of the Marine Court to inquire into the cause of the fire.

Mr. Jenkin, in the course of his reply, said that Court was specially obtained by the Government of the Colony to discharge one function only; to enquire into the causes of fires on the *Polaven*. That was the Court's only function, and they could not refuse to discharge that function unless certain facts came forward which made it necessary for some other steps to be taken. No other Court would order them to stop their discharging that function. It was a well-known principle of law that where a special tribunal was formed for the purpose of inquiring into any specific happening that Court must go through with it, no matter in what way its proceedings might prejudice anyone. It would be inconceivable if the Courts of that Colony, which were from time to time formulated for looking into certain disasters, were worked in any other way. There was a good reason, also, for holding investigations of that kind. The fire on the *Polaven* was an engine-room fire, and it would not, perhaps, be any great news to the Court to know that within a week, at the period of the *Polaven* fire, four such fires on four distinct vessels, occurred at the docks. Therefore, it seemed to him, from every point of view, that it would be wise if such a Court were held. The inquiry was held as the result of influence used in other quarters, and it was not held, as far as they (the Asiatic Petroleum Company) were concerned, in order to get hold of Mr. Looker's evidence; and thus give them an opportunity of "getting over it."

Mr. Looker—I suggested you were asking for the inquiry in order to fish for our evidence.

Mr. Jenkin proceeded that he was told the *Polaven* had articles, and that in those articles appeared the names of the officers of the ship. Those articles were in the Harbour Office. The master and the other officers of the ship, excepting the fourth engineer (Mr. Heck) who was in Court, were away from the Colony. Mr. Heck was here and his name appeared on the articles. He was in the ship at the time of the fire, and he was before that Court. Also, if they had a fire breaking out in the engine-room of a ship, surely it concerned a matter of life and safety of property, which it was essential that that Court should enquire into? For those reasons, therefore, he submitted that that Court must proceed with its function, and take the evidence of Mr. Heck.

Mr. Looker contended that if Mr. Jenkin's interpretation of the Ordinance were upheld by that Court, then that Court was entirely unrelated to any nautical question at all. He also said that Mr. Heck was not fourth engineer of the ship at all; he was merely on board engaged in doing repairs.

After a short retirement, Commander Beckwith announced that the Court, as practical men, were of the opinion that they had jurisdiction in that case, and they proposed to go on with the case forthwith.

Mr. Looker said that he had not yet been able to get his evidence together, and it was then decided to adjourn the case until Wednesday.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

What are our Censors doing? It would be well if, at the next meeting of the Legislative Council, a question were asked concerning the money spent upon this Department. A local resident has just received a pamphlet, printed in Germany, and posted from Switzerland, denouncing in unmeasured terms Great Britain's policy in the war. It deals with the question of the Black Lists, states that the speech of Mr. Asquith at Queen's Hall should be "awarded the prize for the violence and coarseness of the insults levelled against the Germans," and analyses the present military position with the object of showing that all the efforts of the Entente Powers to drive the Germans back are unavailing. This pamphlet, which has been drawn up in order to influence public opinion in neutral countries, is doubtless distributed in its hundreds of thousands, it reaches me open and unfastened. The envelope is not fastened, and almost protruding from the cover is the imprint on the precious document "Kriegs-ausschuss der Deutschen Industrie, Berlin." The envelope, moreover, is stamped "P.B.C." I wonder how many of these pamphlets the Chinese are receiving? One swallow does not make a summer, but such an example of carelessness tends to destroy one's faith in the efficiency of our war methods and to create a feeling of disquiet. At any rate, I hope that an enquiry will be set on foot in order to find whence the pamphlets emanated and which particular Censor's office passed them as innocuous. While the newspapers are not allowed to mention the name of any warship in harbour—a rather absurd restriction when all the facts are considered—His Majesty's postmen are bringing to our doors German special pleading straight from the printing press. This is "straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel" with a vengeance.

Although several hundreds have joined the Constitutional Reform Association, there must be at least an equal number who have neglected to return the circular sent to them a few weeks ago. There is no doubt that this is not due to any lack of sympathy with the movement, but because they are dilatory. The recent petition to the Secretary of State showed that all but a negligible number of those qualified to sign were in favour of a more representative system of government in this Colony, and now that the basis of the movement has been widened and the members of the new Society are to draw up their own proposals for attaining the object in view, there ought to be a corresponding increase in the number of adherents. The greatest obstacle to progress is always the *vis inertiae*; so many people are ready to eat the fruit if others will pluck it for them. They seek to excuse their lethargy by arguing that, after all, their help is of little importance one way or the other.

This always reminds me of the story of the presentation to the Scotch minister upon his retirement. The elders of the Kirk met to consider how they could best mark their appreciation of his services and decided that a cask of whisky would form a most acceptable gift. On a given date, therefore, they invited the congregation to bring their contributions in kind for this purpose and pour them into the cask. In due course the presentation was made, and the minister gracefully invited those present to sample the contents of the cask. When they tasted the liquor they were unable to determine what it was, but they one and all knew that it was not whisky. You see, each of the contributors had held the opinion that, being only one among many, his contribution would count for very little and so he had brought water. There is a moral in this story if you look for it.

Appropos of military service, a correspondent writes as follows:—Why is it that so many Hongkong fellows have suddenly developed a liking for Australia, Japan and Baguio at the present time, when their leave falls due? A number in my own circle, who have often spoken of their keen desire to go home when suddenly changed their minds and sought renewed health and vigour elsewhere. I should not like to think that they are shirking the service which would be demanded of them if they went to England, but I have grave doubts, for they never talked of Japan and Australia when looking forward to the arrival of leave time. My correspondent may set his mind at rest. The Military Service Act does not apply to men home on leave from the Crown Colonies. The probability is that many men find the call of the Homeland less compelling now that so many of their friends have been called to the colours.

If the price of coal continues in its upward flight—it has already reached the neighbourhood of £3 10s. a ton—it will soon be beyond the reach of anyone but a plutocrat. The time is rapidly approaching when the servants, instead of priding himself upon his pictures, or his Chinese, or his selection of vintages, will make a bid for notoriety with his well-stocked coal-cellar. We may even see local jewellers substituting coal for black pearls, and other precious stones in the manufacture of articles of personal adornment.

I am informed, "from within," that away on the spur of a Hongkong mill, "far from the meddling crowd," broods a lonely figure, who is gradually becoming demoralized in the effort to discover how a regular soldier in Hongkong, drawing \$2 a week net, manages to indulge in a "glorious drunk" lasting from Friday to Sunday. He had not solved the problem up to the time of going to press.

ROBERT R. RANDOLPH.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WAR AS A PUNISHMENT FOR OUR SINS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—Before the National Mission of Repentance and Hope is a day older I desire to enter a strong protest against the attitude towards the war adopted by Bishop Norris. His arguments are inconsistent, and, if persisted in, the Mission will not only fail in its object but will do an irreparable injury to the Church under whose auspices it has been arranged, and to the cause of organised Christian effort generally under whatever denomination it is carried on. We hear enough about the Church Militant when Endowments and Preferments are in danger; why do not the missionaries now sound the trumpet call of encouragement to those who in their thousands have sacrificed position and pleasure in order to fight for their home and their loved ones and to defend others who, in their weakness, are at the mercy of the oppressor? Surely Bishop Norris believes that our cause is just! Why, then, does he say that we are being "punished" for our sins? Were we right to keep faith with Belgium? If so, why should our failure to hold back the German forces be regarded as a sign of God's wrath? If among were alive to-day he would point the accusing finger at the scene in Belgium, who was suffering now for her sins. France, whom we had learned to admire and sympathise with as never before, has stood out as a godless nation for many years, and look what she is suffering now. This is the help we obtain from our Church leaders to-day; this is the encouragement we receive from our spiritual advisers in the tremendous task we have undertaken to free the World from military oppression. One would imagine it was an Apostle of German "Kultur" who was speaking. To be consistent, Bishop Norris should deprecate our attempts to raise funds to continue the struggle; he should denounce in unmeasured terms our wickedness in refusing to look upon the German armies as the instruments chosen by God to purge the World of its iniquity.

Of course, I am conversant with the argument that it is impossible for us to understand the mysterious workings of Divine Providence, which uses the most unlikely instruments for carrying out its purpose, and it may appear to Bishop Norris that our endeavours to defeat the enemy are not inconsistent with the idea that the suffering and sorrow through which the Nation is passing is the manifestation of righteous anger against an erring people. But the "Man in the Street" will not accept this view. He knows we could have avoided the trouble at the sacrifice of our honour, and any argument, therefore, tending to show that we are simply meeting with our deserts he would describe as "tooth." The world is not an ideal place. It may be that in the West-End of London there are well-to-do people hoping for peace to come again simply that they "may have a good time," while "little more than a stone's throw away there are thousands wallowing in misery and wretchedness." The Church in the past has not been conspicuous in its zeal for social reform; it also, has its poor and rich servants, and it is nauseating now to find it adopting a Pharisaical attitude towards things as they are, and claiming that it is able to see in this terrible upheaval the inscrutable working of Divine justice.

The Church has a splendid opportunity now of getting into closer touch with the people, but it must strike a more human note in its National Mission of Repentance and Hope. If it is to become a real influence in the lives of the people its leaders must eschew cant. Why not look upon the bright side of things and be a little more practical?—Yours, etc.,

A BUSINESS MAN.

Hongkong, December 4th, 1916.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

CANTON, December 4th.

RESIGNATION OF CHU HING-LAN.

Owing to lack of funds, the Civil Governor Chu is said to have definitely made up his mind to resign, although several telegrams which he has forwarded to the Peking Government on the subject have not been accepted.

It is expected that there will soon be a great change in the financial condition of the Province when the China Bank resumes its exchange service, and the loan contracts are settled.

The local gentry and merchants are all concerned at Governor Chu's resignation, and would welcome his retention of his post.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY AND GENERAL LUK. A meeting was held at the Provincial Assembly for the purpose of discussing the resignation of the Military Governor, Luk Wing-ling.

The representatives considered that it would greatly affect the political situation in the province if General Luk were to leave, and they decided to send a telegram to Peking asking the Government not to accept his resignation.

At the same time they also deliberated upon the resignation of the Civil Governor, but without coming to a decision.

GAMBLING IN CANTON. The Peking Government has recently received a telegram from the local Governor, Luk said Chu, stating that in the present circumstances they are not yet in a position to prohibit the gambling of "Shan Pui" and "Po Pui," but will do so as soon as they can see their way.

THE NATIONAL MISSION.

"WHY DOESN'T GOD STOP THE WAR?"

The meetings in connection with the National Mission of Repentance and Hope were continued yesterday, when services were held in the Cathedral at 10.15 a.m. and 5.30 p.m., and a meeting for men in the Chamber of Commerce Room of the City Hall at 8.30 p.m. The various gatherings were well attended, the last-mentioned particularly so, the room being crowded, many of the audience having to stand throughout the proceedings.

The Rev. Dr. F. L. Norris, Bishop of North China, the Missioner, conducted all the meetings. His subject at the City Hall gathering was "Why doesn't God stop the War?" After some preliminaries the speaker said he had had a question handed to him which asked if, in laying stress on the war as being ordained by God as a punishment for England he had not overlooked the natural, political, and economical trend of events since Bismarck took the lead in Germany, or since 1860, by which, short of divine intervention, which we had no right to expect, war was inevitable when it broke out a year or two afterwards; that the rulers of Germany were set on it and were being driven to it as a solution of their difficulties, and was he not overlooking that when he said it was ordained by God? His answer to that was that he did not mean to lay any stress on the war as ordained by God as a punishment of England. That seemed to him quite a wrong view, and if that was the view any of them had carried away from the meeting in the Theatre the previous night, then they either had failed to catch his meaning or he must have expressed himself very badly. He tried to point out and meant to point out that the suffering the war had brought with it was a punishment laid on us. He did not mean to say the war had been ordained by God to punish us. The war was not ordained by God. Not for a moment. The war was permitted by God. It seemed to him that God, having permitted the war, took the opportunity that man gave him to punish. Man furnished the opportunity and God took it. It was a pity they did not take the opportunities God gave us as readily as God took the opportunities we gave him. A man was blind if he refused to see that God was using the opportunity man had given him in this war to discipline us to punish us; and he was worse than blind if he made light of the whole thing like the editor of John Bull.

IS GOD INCONSISTENT?

Coming to the question why did God not stop the war, the speaker said he supposed there were some people who thought it was inconsistent of God not to stop the war. They knew and believed that "God is love," and that God wished man to love one another; that God was a God of peace; and we were tempted to think it rather inconsistent of God to allow war; that he was letting loose evil; that instead of love he was allowing hate to be rampant when he might stop it, and that seemed inconsistent. But was it inconsistent of God? That seemed to him to depend partly on whether God ordained or permitted the war. God did not ordain the war any more than he ordained that one man should murder another. That He permitted it was obvious. Then was it inconsistent of Him to permit the war, and if so, why? If the war was a bad thing and God was using a bad means for a good end that would be inconsistent, because "you must not do evil that good may come" was one of God's own laws. Next he would ask—was a bad thing in itself? He was not at all sure that it was. It was a painful thing, there was a lot of suffering about war, but he was not at all sure it was a bad thing. When he ran a thorn into his hand it was very painful to extract it, but it was worth while. He noted pain, but he saw no inconsistency in inflicting pain when it was worth while; and he saw no inconsistency in God permitting this war if he thought it worth while, war not being evil in itself, only painful. He was asked to defend the statement that war was not necessarily evil in itself he would rather not do it at that night. He would merely remark that there was a natural law of destruction and death which they saw going on all round them, and war was only one form of it. It seemed to him that they had to admit the whole thing if they were going to admit that it was necessarily evil in itself. He could fancy another question being asked—if it was consistent of God to allow the war to go on when it was doing no good? That question was founded on the assumption that the war was doing no good. Was it not doing good? He fancied it was doing a great deal of good in spite of its suffering. If the war had done nothing else for him, the story of the brave midly standing at his post to the death in the battle of Jutland had made an impression that would last all the days of his life. And there was the sacrifice entailed in this war which was held up to us as Christ was held up on the cross. Let no man say the war was doing no good. There might be a question that now that the object of the war had been attained was it not time to end it?

THE OBJECT OF THE WAR. He said he did not agree that the object of the war had been attained, and proceeded to discuss what was the object of the war. After quoting at length from a war work by Mr. Clinton-Brock he said if the object set forth in it was the object for which God had permitted this

(Continued at foot of next column.)

OBITUARY.

MR. A. H. MACKAY, of TIENTSIN.

We regret to record the death, which took place at Braemar House, yesterday, of an old and popular Tientsin resident—Mr. Alexander Hugh Mackay, says the "Peking and Tientsin Times" of November 27th. Mr. Mackay was a Scot. He first came out to China in 1883, to join the old Tongshan Mining Company, which was then controlled by Mr. Tong King-sing, with Mr. Kinder as Engineer in Chief. During the five years he was at Tongshan, which was then, of course, a very different place from the Tongshan of to-day, Mr. Mackay was extremely popular. He took a great interest in the Tongshan Club and in local sports.

In 1898 Mr. Mackay went home, but he returned to Tientsin in December, 1899, to join the firm of Hirsbrunner and Co., which at that time was in the French Concession. In due course he became a partner in the firm, of which he was in sole control from the time of Mr. Hirsbrunner's death, about three years ago.

Mr. Mackay rendered considerable assistance to the European community during the troublous days of 1900. In 1901 he was joined by his family, and about 1902 the firm moved into its present premises on Victoria Road. Ever since he arrived in Tientsin Mr. Mackay has taken a very keen interest in sport. He was a prominent member of the Race Club, and his colours were often seen on the Course. As a Scot he also took a very keen interest in the local St. Andrew's Society, of which he was President a few years ago. Apart from his interest in Hirsbrunner and Co. he was responsible for several other local enterprises, including the Imperial Hotel and the Crystal Aerated Water Factory. He was a member of the Committee of the local British Chamber of Commerce.

Two of the deceased's sons are now at the Front.

MR. JOHN T. GRIFFIN.

News reached Shanghai on November 28th, of the death at Yokohama, says the "Daily News" of Mr. John T. Griffin, one of the oldest foreign residents of Japan. Mr. Griffin was a retired silk merchant and was for many years associated with the firm of Robinson & Co. While he had never lived in China he had a large circle of friends and acquaintances in this country as some years ago he spent much time in Shanghai, and at Canton, buying silk. Mr. Griffin always took great interest in matters Masonic; he was a 33 degree Mason and head of the Scottish Rite in Japan. He was 65 years of age.

SPORT.

HOCKEY.

VOLUNTEERS v. R.G.A.

The following Volunteers will play for the "B" team against the 88th Coy. R.G.A. at Happy Valley to-day:—Goldenberg, Hickling, Railton, Haskett, Wittchell, Ralston, Stalker, Southerton, Evans (Capt.), Schnepel and House. Bully-off: 4.15. Volunteers in khaki.

war—that we should learn to make ourselves as good and great and as near to God's ideal of excellence as we could—then he thought it was just as well that the war had not yet been stopped. They had not learned the war's lesson yet, but they were a great deal nearer it than they were two and a-half years ago.

QUESTIONS.

Questions were then invited and several were asked and answered. One was why God allowed the war to start, and the Bishop's answer was in the form of another question—why does God allow evil to exist at all? Another question asked what advice the Bishop would give the people of Hongkong as to what they should do to learn the lesson that was necessary to the war coming to a close, to which the Bishop answered that if they would strive after having what he would term a wholly Christian England as their ideal, and working towards it, they would help materially in the direction of the shortening the war. Several other questions were asked.

A LINE FROM THE BISHOP OF STEPNEY.

[COMMUNICATED.]

In connection with the Mission Services now being held in Hongkong and with the preacher's call for "a spiritual perception," the following extract from a letter written two months ago by the Bishop of Stepney to a parent who had just lost a Winchester boy—a Captain, with a M.C. of the Territorial Forces—who had every prospect of a brilliant future, may be of interest to some of our readers:—

"Even at the risk of intrusion I write one line to you in the midst of the glorious sorrow which a father and a good Christian has been called to bear. The papers this morning gave me some idea of the strength and high promise of your son's life—and your pride in him must be very great. It is not for me to remind you of what we are bidden to believe of the life beyond the grave. Only one is quite sure that nothing is lost; that all that is best is safe, and safe for ever; that over the lustre and happiness of a long and useful life is pale beside the fuller life on which he has entered; that all the stages of well-deserved promotion are outstripped by the sudden advance which his self-sacrifice has won for him; that he has reached already more than your fondest wishes reckoned on. You are I know, amongst those who want England to be a better and nobler country—purer, stronger—with higher ideals and a heart set on reaching them. It will be our lasting shame if what has been borne and suffered leaves us as we are! So that, in the very highest sense, England may be saved by the sacrifice of her noblest sons."

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

JUST ARRIVED

A SPLENDID SELECTION OF

EIDER DOWN QUILTS.

THIS DESIGN IS ONE OF MANY

Size 6'0" x 5'0"

HIGH	FRILLED
CLASS	ROSE
WORK.	SATIN.
PRICE	PRICE
\$75.00	\$75.00
HIGHEST	TAPESTRY
GRADE	PANELS.
MATERIALS.	GOFFERED
	BORDER.

WE HAVE OTHER BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS AND COLOURINGS TO SELECT FROM

PRICES \$17.50 TO \$75.00

ALSO A NICE RANGE OF COT QUILTS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

[21]

DRINK "BULL DOG" LAGER BEER.

SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED. BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT:—

PRICES DUTY PAID.

Wing On Co., Ltd.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

Sincere Co., Ltd.

of 4 dozen.

Sun Co., Ltd.

or \$5.10 per dozen.

Cheong Tai.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

Nam Hing Loong.

of 8 dozen.

Ty Sing.

Sang Tai.

or \$3.40 per dozen.

Kwan Tye.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Stocked by

Admitted to be 'the Best

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

Lager Beer brewed.

FRESH STOCKS JUST ARRIVED.

[1204-3]

Wm. Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 346

INEXPENSIVE

SEAMLESS ART CARPET

SQUARES.

BLANKETS.

DOWN QUILTS.

WINTER CURTAINS.

1077

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

BUME & REIF.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that M. BERTHOLD REIF will no longer use the firm name of BUME & REIF, but will carry on business in future under his own name.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 5th December, 1916. [1434]

WANTED.

FOR Outport in February, 1917, NURSE, Portuguese or Eurasian preferred, for two children aged 7 and 4. References required.

Apply to—

Box No. 42,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1435]

JUST RECEIVED.

A Large and New Consignment of ORIENTAL SATINS, GEORGETT'S CREPE, PERSIAN PLAIN and FLOWERED CREPES, INDIAN CARPETS and Rugs.

An inspection is earnestly solicited.

D. CHELLARAM,
38 and 40, Queen's Road Central.
[1436]

NOTICE.

"GLEN" LINE (McGREGOR, GOW CO.), LIMITED.

CERTAIN Cargo ex M. S. "GLEN" S. S. "NAMSANG" Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS will attend at the HONGKONG and KOWLOON WHARF and GODOWN COMPANY'S GODOWNS, Kowloon, on FRIDAY, 8th inst., at 10 A.M., to survey all damaged packages. Consignees of Cargo arrived are requested to have representatives present.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents,
"GLEN" LINE (McGREGOR, GOW CO.), LTD.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1916. [1437]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

The Steamship "KAIPING," FROM SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG and KOWLOON WHARF and GODOWN CO., LTD., at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 11th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 30th inst., or they will not be recognised.

All broken, stained, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 11th inst. at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DODWELL & Co., Ltd., Agents.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1916. [1438]

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE CERTIFICATE for Four Shares, Nos. 3359/3362 of the Original Denomination of \$500.00 per Share in this Company, standing in the name of NIKOLAS ALEXIS FRANKOV (since deceased), of Hankow, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of One Month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming another Certificate for the equivalent thereof in the present denomination will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

C. MONTAGUE EDE, General Manager,
Hongkong, 17th November, 1916. [1439]

G. R.

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE, HONGKONG.

To the OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 5 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BY-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building or part of such Building within the CENTRAL Division of the City of Victoria, and the WESTERN Division of Kowloon, occupied by Members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or in Kowloon South of Austin Road or those parts of a Domestic Building used as a Shop, Office or Godown, must be CLEANED and LIMEWASHED THROUGHOUT by the owners during the months of December and January.

N.B.—The word "throughout" used in this Notice means that the Houses should be LIMEWASHED in respect of all the Walls of each Room, all Chimneys, Partitions, Stair Casings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Roofs in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its containing Walls LIMEWASHED up to the level of the First Floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be LIMEWASHED, but must be CLEANED.

The Board is prepared to LIMEWASH FREE OF CHARGE limited number of Buildings in these Divisions. OWNERS who desire to avail themselves of this offer should apply in writing to the Secretary on or before the 7th December, 1916.

Choice among applicants will be in the absolute discretion of the Board.

The CENTRAL Division of the City lies between Gilman Street and Peel Street on the East and Tank Lane and Cleverly Street on the West.

Kowloon is divided into the Eastern and Western Divisions by Nathan Road and a straight line drawn from the North end through the Yeamat Service reservoir to the Northern Boundary of Kowloon.

Dated this 1st day of December, 1916.

W. BOWEN-BOWLANDS, Secretary.
[1440]

INTIMATIONS

THE NATIONAL MISSION.

TO-DAY (TUESDAY):

10.15 A.M.—Service in the Cathedral.

5.00 P.M.—Service in the Cathedral.

6.00 P.M.—Men Only, City Hall.

Subject: "Is Christianity Played Out?"

TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY):

10.15 A.M.—Service in the Cathedral.

5.30 P.M.—Meeting for Women, Helena May Institute.

9.00 P.M.—United Meeting in the Theatre

[1438]

"KISMET"

A.D.C. Production

on behalf of the

"STAR and GARTER FUND"

for Soldiers and Sailors totally disabled in the War.

GALA NIGHT—FRIDAY, Dec. 15th.

SECOND NIGHT—SATURDAY, 16th.

THIRD NIGHT—MONDAY, 18th.

M A T I N E E—WEDNESDAY, 20th.

PRICES:

Gala Night—Centre Dress Circle Seats \$10

and all remaining Seats \$5.

The Seats for the following nights are:—

Dress Circle \$4.

Stalls 3.

Pit 1.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform Half-Price.

[1434]

SECOND 5% RUSSIAN INTERNAL SHORT TERMED LOAN OF 1916 for Rbls. 3,000,000,000.

THE Subscription to the above LOAN will be opened from 14th November to 26th December, 1916.

The price of issue is 95 per cent.

The Loan is entirely free of Income Tax and other taxations.

The Loan is redeemable at par on 14th October, 1926, without option for the Russian Government to convert it at an earlier date.

Coupons are payable half-yearly on the 14th April and 14th October.

As interest on the above Loan runs from 14th October, the interest accrued on date of subscription must be taken into consideration and is to be added to the price of issue.

The Russo-Asiatic Bank in Hongkong is ready to accept applications for the above-named Loan.

Special favourable rates will be quoted for Russian Exchange.

Payment may also be made in Roubles.

Applications will be wired to Petrograd free of telegraphic charges and commission.

40 per cent. only of the cost of the Bonds may be paid on application, the balance to be paid on receipt of the Bonds.

The Bank is also ready to give every facility to subscribers in the shape of advances against the scrips.

G. TISDALL,
Manager,
RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK.
[1439]

G. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 11th day of December, 1916, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Wanchai Bay Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty THE KING, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of the Lot	Locality	Boundary Measurements (Approximate)	Contents in Square feet	Annual Rent	Upset Price
1	Lot 1, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
2	Lot 2, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
3	Lot 3, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
4	Lot 4, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
5	Lot 5, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
6	Lot 6, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
7	Lot 7, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
8	Lot 8, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
9	Lot 9, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000
10	Lot 10, Wanchai Bay Road, Wanchai Bay, Kowloon	100 feet by 100 feet	10,000	100	1,000

FOR SALE.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CARDS.

GRACA & CO.

No. 4 WYNDHAM STREET.
[1440]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

NO. 1, CANTON VILLAS, Kowloon.
Apply—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.
[1424]

TO LET.

NO. 42, ELGIN STREET.
Apply to—
PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING.
[1425]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED, 3, Stewart Terrace.
Apply—
H. E. POLLOCK,
Princes' Buildings.
[1419]

TO LET.

A HOUSE, at Observatory Villas, Kowloon, with Tennis Court.
Apply—
ARRATTON V. APCAR & Co.,
14, Des Voeux Road Central.
[1415]

TO LET.

From 1st November next.
FURNISHED, in "EWO MESS," No. 6, THE PEAK.
Apply, Property Office,
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LTD.
[1408]

TO LET.

GODOWN in Duddell Street, Light and airy Offices overlooking Statue Square. Moderate rent.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
"Daily Press" Office.
[1440]

TO LET.

From 1st May.
OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Buildings.
Apply to—
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.
[1418]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 5, Queen's Road Central, at present in the occupation of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
Apply to—
CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.
[1423]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.
OFFICES in King's and York Buildings, HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Connaught Road, HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.
No. 21, WONG NEI CHONG ROAD, HOUSES on Shumeng, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.
[1422]

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48, with wharf area 58,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,
Alexandria Buildings.
[1421]

WANTED.

EUROPEAN ASSISTANT for Local Shipping Office, previous experience essential.
Apply—
Box No. 1,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1426]

WANTED.

TWO MARINE ENGINEERS with Shop experience to Act as Workshop Foreman, and a FOREMAN MARINE BOILER MAKER and a FOREMAN SHIP PLATER to take up duties in Shanghai. Address all communications to—
"Z. Y. X."
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1427]

WANTED.

ENGINEER, B.C. abriter, for Harbour or Shop. Apply in own writing with copy res., stating age and salary required to—
W. S. BAILEY & Co., LTD.,
Kowloon.
[1428]

G. R.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

[1429]

INTIMATION

GILBEY'S

SPEY-ROYAL

SCOTCH WHISKY.

Is Guaranteed

to be made from Pure Malted

Barley in a Pot Still.

10 YEARS OLD.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 616.

BIRTHS.

HUMPHREYS.—At Oaklands, California, on November 30th, to Mr. and Mrs. ALFRED D. HUMPHREYS, a son. [1425]

JONES.—At the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, on November 29th, to Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT J. S. JONES, a daughter.

PEDERSEN.—At No. 570, Avenue Joffre, Shanghai, on November 29th, to Mr. and Mrs. DAVID PEDERSEN, a daughter.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10, DES VOEUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 191, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 5TH DECEMBER, 1916.

THE WAR AS A PUNISHMENT FOR OUR SINS.

At the risk of the *Daily Press* being consigned by Bishop NORRIS to the category of "filthy rags," we venture to express the opinion that if one of the objects of the National Mission of Repentance and Hope is to bring the masses of the people into closer communion with the Church his address at the City Hill on Sunday night is likely to prove a hindrance rather than a help.

In the war that is now spreading death and destruction from one end of Europe to the other it was impossible, he said, not to see that "God was punishing us for our sins." Are we to believe, then, that the nameless horrors perpetrated in Belgium, Serbia, Poland and Armenia, whereby young and old of both sexes and of all classes have been cruelly done to death by merciless soldiery, are not merely permitted by the Almighty but actually ordained by Him. That would seem to be the natural inference to draw from the Bishop's words. How can the "man in the street" be expected to reconcile this view with a God of Justice and a God of Love? Are we to understand that the innocent victims of German, Bulgarian and Turkish brutality are more deeply steeped in sin than their more fortunate fellow-countrymen who have had the means to escape from the tyranny of the invader, or that they are vicarious sacrifices? The idea is repugnant alike to common-sense and to our poor human conception of justice.

Nor is it reasonable to suppose that the nations which are now lost in this life and death struggle are a sinful lot than those who still live in peace and prosperity. As well might we say that a man who is murdered in his bed by a burglar is shown by that fact to be a greater sinner than his fellows, and that his death is the consequence of his own iniquities. Every intelligent man to-day knows that the war was the inevitable result of the gospel of militarism preached in Germany for years past—a gospel which enthroned the pagan god Mars in the seat of the Prince of Peace. Yet we are, apparently, asked to regard Germany as the chosen instrument of the Almighty for scourging the world for its sins. It is an inspiring message to send to our brave troops in the field, who have sacrificed all that life holds, save honour, on the altar of duty. They are not fighting to avenge a slight to the nation's dignity or to gain some material advantage, which has been the excuse for many previous wars; they are fighting to uphold the cause of liberty and justice, and to secure the world against another such outbreak of wanton aggression. In other words, they believe that they are engaged in a holy crusade. We could, if we had chosen, have turned a deaf ear to the cry of Belgium in distress and so have escaped, for a time at least, the sufferings of war. We chose the nobler course of going to her aid in fulfilment of our pledge, though we knew in advance that we should be called upon to pay a heavy price. Was that wrong? If not—and Bishop NORRIS tells us that "God called upon us to fight for the right,"—how have we merited punishment? It is no explanation to point to the wide gulf which separates rich and poor in Great Britain. That might explain an internal upheaval, but it will not supply the reason for our entry into this war. Similar conditions, unfortunately, will be found to prevail throughout the world, and at least we can say that during recent years an increasing measure of attention has been devoted in Great Britain to the amelioration of the lot of the poorer members of society. Much admittedly remains to be done in this direction, but if the war is a punishment for our neglect the time seems ill-chosen, and it is to be feared that its effects will fall most heavily upon those who are the least blameworthy. Similarly, it is hard to understand why the penalty for the harsh treatment meted out by Russia to the Jews and Poles within her borders should be imposed with greatest severity upon those very people, or why the Armenians should suffer for Turkey's transgressions. There are other and more helpful lessons to be learned from this war which has called forth such a magnificent spirit of self-sacrifice from all classes and will, we confidently believe, prove to be the birth pain of a new and brighter era.

A mail for Europe via Siberia closes to-day at 3 p.m.

The P. and O. outward mail steamer *Kashgar*, with the London mail of the 16th ultimo, arrived at Port Said on the 2nd instant.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$60 to the funds of the Hospitals from the Brass and Iron Dealers' Guild, and one of \$50 from the Hon. Mr. Lau Chun-pak.

"Is Christianity Played Out?" is the subject of an address to men only which will be delivered by Bishop NORRIS in the Chamber of Commerce room at the City Hall to-night. The hour of the meeting which was previously fixed for 6.30 has been changed to 6 p.m. Questions are invited. The Service at the Cathedral will commence at 5 p.m. instead of 5.30 p.m.

The workers of "Our Little Bit" Society, Kowloon, have this week sent the following articles to Queen Mary's Needlework Guild, Cavendish Square, London, W., through the courtesy of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co.:—3,204 bandage rolls, 425 swabs, 123 flannel manytailed bandages, 25 stump bandages, 21 eye bandages, 16 pairs surgical stockings, 31 pairs socks, 21 pairs mittens, 85 bed-jackets, 86 suits pyjamas, and 34 floor mops. Members are advised that work can be called for at Mrs. S. E. Green's residence on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and not on Thursdays as previously stated.

The local fire brigade had to deal with two fires during Sunday. A house used as a medicine shop, at 24, Sai Street, was gutted by fire, and the same thing happened at 19, Arthur Street, Yau-mat. The latter fire, it is thought, was caused by a match or cigar-end being dropped.

A married woman, of Kowloon City, has reported to the Police that at 1.30 a.m. on Sunday four men entered her house. She shouted for help, and one of the men, pointing a knife at her, advised her to keep quiet. The men then ransacked the place, and got away with money and clothing to the value of \$25.70.

During the week ending December 2nd, 27 cases of small-pox (all Chinese, one being imported) were reported in the Colony, 19 of which proved fatal. In the same period there were seven cases of enteric fever (one English, one American, one Parsee and the rest Chinese), four of which proved fatal. There were also five cases of diphtheria (one Parsee, one Indian and the rest Chinese), three of which proved fatal.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

CAUGHT "RED-HANDED."

Sentence of three months' hard labour was passed upon a Chinese who attempted to steal rope. While the steam launch *Kwong Ming* was moored alongside Nelson Street Wharf, Yau-mat, on Saturday, he was found by a seaman cutting the ropes of three anchors, with the intention of passing them to a man in a boat.

PICKPOCKET.

Mr. Melbourne sentenced a pickpocket to one month's imprisonment. A Chinese was standing in a crowd in Hunghom, when he felt a significant tug at his watch pocket. Turning sharply he saw defendant with his watch in his hand, grabbed hold of him, and held on until the arrival of the police.

BRASS IN CLOTHING.

When leaving the docks at Kowloon a Chinese was searched by the Indian watchman, who found a brass lock from a cabin door and a quantity of lead piping, secreted in his clothing. Mr. C. D. Melbourne sent the thief to prison for one month.

THE OTHER MAN.

A Chinese who was found at the Kowloon Railway Station with two seals of opium in his possession said it was given him by "another man." When asked if he could find the other man, defendant said he went away when he was arrested. A fine of \$200, or three months' hard labour, was imposed.

"HIGHWAY ROBBERY."

Two Chinese were charged with aiding and abetting another man to obtain \$165.

The latter was sentenced to six months' hard labour by Mr. J. R. Wood on a charge of misappropriation of the money and one man was discharged, he having turned King's evidence. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Sergeant Wills said defendant engineered the whole plot. This kind of thing was frequent; the police had another case only last night. It was a false report.

Mr. Melbourne sent defendant to prison for six months and ordered him to be placed in the stocks for four hours.

ANOTHER JAPANESE BANK FOR SHANGHAI.

An addition was made on November 29th, to Shanghai's list of exchange banks with the opening in the building formerly occupied by the South Manchuria Railway Co., 1 Kiukiang Road, of the Sumitomo Bank, Ltd. The building had been renovated for the new tenants and on the opening day there was a steady stream of visitors, Chinese in the morning and Japanese and other foreigners in the afternoon. The managers of other banks and business concerns were among those who called to wish success for this latest enterprise of the Sumitomo Bank, Ltd., this branch being the company's first appearance in China.

In the reference made yesterday to the Yangtze Pilots for Mesopotamia who left by the P. and O. S. *Malta* it was mentioned that there was still another volunteer required to complete the number of 15 that was required. The *N.C. Daily News* now announces that Mr. J. Ross Young, of the Wooming-Hankow Pilots Association, is filling the vacancy.

THE WAR.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT CRISIS.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

ACUTE SITUATION IN GREECE.

MANY ALLIED CASUALTIES.

NEWS FROM ALL FRONTS.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

CRISIS IN BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

SMALL WAR COUNCIL PRACTICALLY SETTLED.

LONDON, December 4th.

There is a somewhat easier feeling to-day in the political situation. From the conflicting statements in the newspapers the fact emerges that there have been no resignations, though some have been threatened, while the establishment of a small War Council, variously estimated at from three to four members, and probably including Sir Edward Carson, is regarded as settled.

The crux of the position is the question of Mr. Asquith retaining the Premiership.

There was much conferring between Ministers yesterday.

The *Times* and *Daily Mail* assert that this resulted in a deadlock, as Mr. Lloyd George is determined to fight for a War Council consisting of Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law, Sir Edward Carson and a Labour Member, while Mr. Asquith insisted on the retention of Mr. Balfour instead of Sir Edward Carson, and also objected to conferring on the Council unrestricted power. Both journals add that a meeting of Unionist Ministers yesterday morning supported Mr. Lloyd George. The meeting was not attended by Mr. Balfour, or Lord Lansdowne. The latter is ill in bed.

GOVERNMENT TO BE RECONSTRUCTED.

LONDON, December 4th.

It is officially announced that Mr. Asquith, with a view to the most effective prosecution of the war, has decided to advise the King to consent to a reconstruction of the Government.

BLEEDING BELGIUM.

DECLARATION BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS.

LONDON, December 4th.

The British, French, Russian and Italian Governments have issued a declaration stating that by deliberately creating unemployment in Belgium as an excuse for the deportations, and recommending the wholesale removal of foodstuffs from Belgium, and other similar measures, taken contrary to pledges, in order to relieve their own desperate situation, the Germans are tearing up every guarantee on which the work of the neutral relief commission was based. The Governments therefore appeal to the civilised world on behalf of helpless civilians to see that this great work of international benevolence is not destroyed by such treachery and violence.

HOSPITALS IN INDIA.

OFFICERS' SATISFACTION.

LONDON, December 4th.

Following upon the statement in the House of Commons on the 27th ult. regarding hospital administration, Mr. Chamberlain received spontaneous letters from two officers, unknown to him personally, and who were lately patients at Colaba, testifying that there was no cause for complaint. On the contrary, the staff did their utmost for the comfort of the patients.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE BRITISH POLITICAL CRISIS.

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS IMMINENT.

LONDON, December 3rd.

The *Times* Lobby correspondent says that important political developments are imminent. There will be a trial of strength between Parliament and the Cabinet next week with debates on the Vote of Credit, the Man Power and National Feeding questions.

Some of the Peers have decided to press for a secret session of the House of Lords to discuss the whole war position.

THE NEW WAR COUNCIL.

LONDON, December 3rd.

The *Daily Chronicle* says that the rumours of a drastic reconstruction of the Cabinet are unfounded, but remarks that the new War Council will probably consist of Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law, and Mr. Balfour, with Admiral Jellicoe and General Sir William Robertson. If, as is likely, Sir Edward Carson joins the Cabinet as a Minister without portfolio, he will become a member of the War Council. It is unlikely that Lord Fisher will join the War Council, because he recently declined to go to the Admiralty in an advisory capacity.

CAUSE OF THE CRISIS.

LONDON, December 4th.

The *Weekly Dispatch* says that the cause of the crisis was Mr. Lloyd George's proposal to form a small War Council, including Sir Edward Carson, but excluding Mr. Asquith and Mr. Balfour. The *Observer* says that certain Ministers, principally Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Bonar Law, are resolved not to continue in office under the present terms. It was rumoured last evening that both had resigned. The *Observer* advocates that an Admiral be appointed First Lord, replacing Mr. Balfour, says Sir Edward Carson is quite willing to join a Cabinet headed by Mr. Lloyd George.

STATEMENT EXPECTED.

LONDON, December 3rd.

To-night's papers state that the Government crisis is unabated. It is apparent that Mr. Lloyd George's resignation has not yet been accepted. Mr. Asquith consulted Mr. Lloyd George in the afternoon and evening, and also Mr. Bonar Law, the Earl of Crewe and the Hon. Mr. E. S. Montagu. It is expected that the Premier will make a statement in the House of Commons to-morrow.

AUSTRALIA'S DETERMINATION.

LONDON, December 3rd.

During the no-confidence debate, Mr. Hughes said the Government intended to concentrate on the continuance of Australia's war efforts both in men and material, despite the Referendum result. A permanent recruiting organisation under a Director would be established, supplementing voluntary efforts. In the House of Representatives, Mr. Cook promised that the Opposition would cordially support the Government in prosecuting and financing the war to the end.

WAR PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, December 3rd.

An official message from Berlin states that there were 1,653,794 war prisoners in Germany on July 1st. The deaths among prisoners during the war had been 29,297, including 6,032 from tuberculosis, 4,201 from spotted fever, and 8,970 from wounds. The cases of tuberculosis are decreasing.

HONOUR FOR ZEPPELIN HEROES.

LONDON, December 3rd.

The Distinguished Service Order has been awarded Sub-Lieut. Edward Pulling, and the Distinguished Service Cross to Lieutenant Egbert Cadbury and Sub-Lieut. Gerrard Fane, of the Naval Air Service, in recognition of their work in the destruction of the Zeppelin on Tuesday on the Norfolk coast.

GERMANY AND WAR PREPARATION.

AN ADMISSION.

LONDON, December 2nd.

Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam quotes the *Berliner Post* as saying that Baron Zoellitz declares that the Chancellor, in 1911, requested the Ministry of the Interior to begin an economic preparation for war.

GERMAN COMPULSION BILL. CARRIED AFTER HEATED DEBATE.

AMSTERDAM, December 3rd.

The Reichstag has passed the third reading of the Compulsion Bill by 235 votes to 19, after a heated discussion, a section of the Socialists denouncing the enslavement of workmen and the deportations of Belgians.

HAPPY KAISER.

AMSTERDAM, December 3rd.

The Kaiser has telegraphed to the Chancellor his great delight at the adoption of civilian service. A people filled with such a uniform determination to make every sacrifice of blood, treasure and labour for a victorious defence of the Fatherland, must maintain against everyone their place among the civilised nations which they had gained by intelligence, industry and moral strength; and they could not be conquered.

THE BELGIANS.

DISCUSSION IN THE REICHSTAG.

AMSTERDAM, December 3rd.

In the Reichstag, the Socialists, Herr Haase and Herr Dittmann, summoned the Government to restore the freedom of the workmen, especially the Belgians, whose deportation was contrary to the Hague Convention, and in defiance of General von Bissing's promise.

Dr. von Helldorf deplored the discussion which would have a bad effect on the troops at the front, and asserted that the forcing of the Belgians to work was in accordance with International Law. It was intolerable that an idle and turbulent population should remain in the war zone.

AMERICA CONCERNED AT BELGIAN DEPORTATIONS.

WASHINGTON, December 3rd.

Mr. Gerard, U.S. Ambassador, returns to Berlin on December 5th. He is instructed to emphasise the deep concern of the United States at the Belgian deportations.

BRITAIN'S BUDGET PROSPECTS.

LONDON, December 2nd.

Mr. McKenna, in a written reply to a question in the House of Commons, said he anticipates that the Budget estimate of expenditure will be materially increased, but, nevertheless, he does not contemplate any fresh taxation at the present.

AMERICAN POLITICS.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, December 3rd.

The publication of the following message was strictly forbidden, until released telegraphically.

President Wilson's message to Congress will probably be delivered on December 5th, and will be the shortest on record. It deals exclusively with domestic affairs, mainly the regulation of railway labour on a basis of an eight-hour day, and advocates an amendment in the law authorising that labour disputes be fully and publicly investigated before a strike or lock-out can be lawful. The country cannot remain exposed to profound industrial disturbances for lack of additional means of arbitration and conciliation, which Congress could easily supply. A proposal whereby the working of the country's railways should not be stopped or interrupted by the concerted act of organised bodies of men, until a public investigation had been instituted for the purpose of explaining the whole question to national opinion, involves no new principle.

The President also recommends a law giving greater freedom of combination to those engaged in promoting foreign commerce than the present laws against monopoly permit. This opportunity may pass if there is any delay in action.

AMERICA AND ALLIED TREASURY BILLS.

New York, December 3rd.

It is announced that Messrs. Morgan have withdrawn the proposed sale of Anglo-French Treasury Bills.

DUTCH MINISTER RESIGNS.

THE HAGUE, December 3rd.

The Finance Minister has resigned following the First Chamber's rejection of the Inheritance Tax.

SHACKLETON IN NEW ZEALAND.

WELLINGTON (N.Z.) Dec. 4th.

Sir Ernest Shackleton has arrived here, but he declines to state his plans.

OBITUARY.

SIR F. PAOLO TOSTI.

LONDON, December 2nd.

Reuter's correspondent at Rome reports the death of the famous song-writer, Sir F. Paolo Tosti, K.C.V.O. [The deceased, who was born at Abruzzi in 1847, was educated at the Conservatory, Naples, and came to England in 1876. He was honoured with the K.C.V.O. decoration in 1908.]

The Balkans.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FIGHTING IN ATHENS.

ALLIES HAVE MANY CASUALTIES.

LONDON, December 4th.

The *Times* correspondent at Athens states that altogether, 3,000 Allies landed, and were marching to the town from three directions, when, at daylight on Friday, they found assigned points occupied by Greek troops who attacked the Allies, when the latter retired. Fighting began at 10.30 in the morning and ended at two in the afternoon, as the result of an armistice. The Allies withdrew during the night, escorted by Greek cavalry, in order to avoid further incidents.

Besides twenty-seven killed the Allies had other casualties. The Italians, numbering 180, lost considerably, and 100 French were taken prisoners.

The disorders were renewed on Saturday, and continued nearly the whole day from balconies and hotels. The newspapers state that the sailors were fired on. Everywhere in the town there were continual volleys. Arrests of Venezuelans continued the day long.

GREEK GOVERNMENT MUST MAKE AMENDS.

PARIS, December 4th.

The Allied Governments are taking concerted measures to obtain reparation for the Greek attack on the 1st inst.

A telegram from Athens, dated the 2nd inst., stated that the Allied troops had withdrawn to Piræus.

The Greek Government offered Admiral Fournet six batteries, but the Allied Ministers, acting on instructions, replied that the matter was now too serious, and the Greek Government must make amends corresponding to the gravity of the outrage.

GREEK AND FRENCH CASUALTIES.

ATHENS, December 4th.

The Commander of the First Greek Army Corps announces that the casualties in the recent disturbance were—Greeks, 89 killed and 64 wounded; French, 59 killed and 47 wounded.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

LONDON, December 3rd.

A Berlin official message records an advance from Kampolung to Ploste, the crossing of the Orgesul river, and the capture of 2,800 prisoners and fifteen guns.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE MARCH ON BUKHAREST. ROUMANIAN ARMY STILL INTACT.

LONDON, December 2nd.

General Brusiloff is employing fresh troops and countless guns in defying the season of snow, with the evident intention of penetrating into Hungary and getting at the rear of General von Falkenhayn. But the region is most difficult for the operation of masses of troops. It is composed wholly of rugged mountains, densely wooded and thinly populated, and lacking in communications.

The fact that a Berlin *communiqué* mentions that General von Mackensen is commanding in Roumania is regarded as showing that Falkenhayn has been transferred elsewhere.

The enemy is now threatening Bukharest also on the south-east, having seized the village of Gostinari, nineteen miles distant.

The Roumanian Army is still intact with heavy guns and munitions.

OCCUPYING ROUMANIA.

AMSTERDAM, December 3rd.

General von Tschape Weidenbach, the ex-Commander of the Eighth Russian Corps, has been appointed Governor of the occupied part of Roumania.

RUSSIAN AND RUMANIAN SUCCESSES.

Petersburg, December 3rd.

A Russian official announcement says:—In Transylvania, we successfully attacked in the valleys of the Rivers Trotus and Suly, and occupied by assault Sutor. We took eight hundred prisoners.

In the Danube-Argis valley the fighting is assuming the character of a great battle. The Roumanians, outflanked by cavalry from the south, are retiring south-eastward. The Roumanians south of Bukharest, with the assistance of the Russians, are successfully developing operations.

A number of prisoners and at least twenty-six guns have been captured.

RUMANIANS TAKE PRISONERS.

LONDON, December 3rd.

A Roumanian official message says:—In the course of various attacks in Moldavia and North Wallachia, we took prisoner 180 men.

On the Western front, we retired towards Titu and defeated and drove back southwards a division of Turks.

The main body of Germans and Bulgars is in the region of Glavacoe and Neaglov.

IN MACEDONIA.

A French *communiqué* says that bad weather is hampering operations in Macedonia.

BRITISH ACTIVITY.

LONDON, December 3rd.

A British message from Salonika states:—Our patrols successfully raided Neohori.

Our aeroplanes seriously damaged a camp near Berea.

THE GREEK CRISIS.

CONFLICTS BETWEEN GREEK AND ALLIED TROOPS.

LONDON, December 3rd.

Reuter's correspondent at Athens, telegraphing on the afternoon of the 2nd inst., states that 600 Anglo-French marines have marched out of Zappeion with all equipment, under a strong Greek guard, en route to the Piræus. The neighbouring streets were cleared to prevent a demonstration against the Entente.

A detachment of Italian marines, who yesterday took refuge in the Italian Archaeological School, was permitted to quietly depart, being given a Greek escort, on the intervention of the Italian Minister.

ALLIED TROOPS ATTACKED BY GREEKS.

LONDON, December 3rd.

Telegrams from Athens leave the situation obscure. President indications are that the Allied detachments ashore were only landed as a measure of precaution, and were ordered not to forcibly seize the promised material.

Meanwhile, Greek troops, on the 1st inst., assumed the aggressive and attacked the detachments with rifles and machine-guns, a number being killed and wounded. Thereupon, French, British and Italian bluejackets and French troops landed. Collisions then occurred at several points.

Greek troops fired on the British and Italians, while two cannon shots were fired from an adjacent hill at Zappeion where Admiral Fournet and the British and French Ministers, with French bluejackets were.

Afterwards machine-guns opened fire, many casualties being inflicted. Zappeion did not reply, but the Fleet fired a few shots to silence the Greek cannon. What then happened is not stated.

A despatch announcing the withdrawal of the Allies to the Piræus, dated Saturday afternoon, is the last received.

WORTH OF KING CONSTANTINE'S WORD.

ATHENS, December 3rd.

The King spontaneously offered in October to surrender to the Allies the bulk of Greece's war material and guns as a compensation for those delivered to the Bulgarians and the Germans, receiving an indemnity therefor. His Majesty stipulated that Greece should maintain her neutrality and agreed that Greek volunteers should be free to fight Greece's enemy.

The King did not observe the engagement, and was gradually overwhelmed by hostility. Exposed by the intrigues of the Germans and the Gounarists, he declared his powerlessness to maintain order, and the Government refused to ratify the King's written engagement.

FRENCH DEMAND PUNISHMENT OF GREEKS.

PARIS, December 3rd.

The Greek Minister has resigned in consequence of the events at Athens, at which the newspapers are most indignant. They demand a speedy and unforgettable punishment of the Greek Government for the treacherous murders of French sailors and sailors.

EMBARGO ON GREEK SHIPS.

PARIS, December 3rd.

The Allies have decided to place an embargo on all Greek ships lying in the Allied ports. Greece is, therefore, in a state of blockade.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH RAID AT YPRES. MANY CASUALTIES.

LONDON, December 4th.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Our Ypres raid last night caused many casualties. Hostile artillery have been active at Les Boucqs. There has been reciprocal trench-mortar work at Neuville St. Vaast, Hohenzollern, Ypres and Armentieres.

CONSIDERABLE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

PARIS, December 4th.

An official *communiqué* states:—There has been considerable artillery activity south of the Somme, in the region of B. l. south of the Somme, and on the right of the Meuse, in the Vaux and Douaumont sectors. There has been a mining duel in Argonne.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH RAID ENEMY TRENCHES.

LONDON, December 3rd.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We raided trenches southward of Fauquissart and eastward of Ypres.

ARTILLERY AND AERIAL ACTIVITY.

PARIS, December 3rd.

A *communiqué* says:—There is an intense artillery duel at Barleux, but it is quiet elsewhere.

Seven of our aeroplanes at night heavily bombed factories at Thionville, and Langargues, and destroyed at Ebon.

The Germans again fired some heavy shells in the direction of Nancy.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIA'S WAR PROGRAMME.

DETERMINED SPEECH BY PREMIER.

PETERSBURG, December 3rd.

At the re-opening of the Duma, the Premier, M. Treppoff, made a speech in which he said that Russia would never lay down arms until a complete victory had been attained, whatever difficulties or temporary checks were encountered. The power of the enemy was shaken, but immense efforts were required to definitely break his resistance.

He regretted the food transport difficulties in many localities, but said the Government would take measures to firmly establish order behind the armies. He recognised the necessity for vast railway construction, an increase in the production of metals and fuel, the erection of munitions factories, and the development of technical education. A Bill would be introduced for compulsory elementary education.

M. Treppoff announced that an Anglo-Franco-Russian agreement was concluded in 1915, to which Italy had adhered, which definitely established the right of Russia to the Straits and Constantinople. He stated that this declaration was made in accord with the Allies, who were absolutely united thereon. After obtaining sovereign possession of a free passage to the Mediterranean, Russia would grant freedom of navigation to Roumania. He emphasised that Russia, besides reconquering the territories occupied by the enemy, must wrest Prussian and Austrian Poland from her enemies and reconstitute a free Poland inseparably united to Russia.

M. Treppoff was prevented from beginning his speech for three-quarters of an hour by a hostile demonstration on the part of Socialists and Labourites. A dozen demonstrators were eventually expelled.

Italian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AN ADVANCE.

ROME, December 3rd.

An official message says:—We straightened out our line in the Carso region on a kilometre front, and advanced three hundred metres.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SUBMARINE PIRACY.

MORE VESSELS SUNK.

LONDON, December 3rd.

Among the latest sinkings reported are the steamers *Burcombe* (British), and *Skyeduff* (Norwegian), and the sailing ship *Brainais* (French). The 1,000-ton steamer *Isar* is also believed to be sunk.

Reuter's correspondent at Copenhagen says that a German submarine has torpedoed the Swedish steamer *Douglas* and towed the crew in boats to the coast of Jutland, where Danish fishermen picked them up.

Further sinkings reported are:—The steamers *Egholm* (Danish), and *Njal* (Norwegian), two British schooners, a Russian schooner and a French sailing ship.

DUTCH LINER SUNK.

The s.s. *Kedri*, a Rotterdam-Lloyd liner, homeward bound from the Dutch East Indies, has been sunk. The estimated loss is £600,000 and a fall on the Dutch insurance market is expected. German insurance offices operating there participate in the loss.

The Near East.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

EGYPTIAN OPERATIONS.

LONDON, December 3rd.

The *Gazette* publishes a despatch from General Murray reporting on the operations in Egypt from June 1st to September 30th. It deals chiefly with the decisive defeat of 18,000 Turco-Germans in the Katia district early in August, in connection with which General Murray pays a tribute to the invaluable work of the Imperial Camel Corps, under Lieut. Colonel C. L. Smith, V.C. He also pays tributes to the services of the Bikanir Camel Corps, the Sikh Pioneers for patrolling and reconnoitring, and also mentions a number of officers in the Indian Army.

TEN MONTHS IN GERMANY.

SUBMARINE MOTIVES.

"MR. HOOGE'S."

CHAPTER XII.

[BY D. THOMAS CURTIN.]

In his twelfth article Mr. Curtin shows how the submarine campaign for the destruction of merchantmen, apart from the hopes of starving England, is connected with Germany's plan of emerging from the war as the first shipping power in the world. Incidentally he explains the part played by the Deutsche Bank and other German banks in London in assisting by their curious and multifarious activities in German schemes of commercial conquest.

Investigation of naval, military, and Zeppelin matters by a neutral in beyond question, the most difficult task that can be imposed on anyone who goes into Germany seeking the truth.

The situation, however, is slightly helped by the national loyalty of the people, both by voice and pen. Almost every German soldier keeps a diary in which he blots forth an exaggerated account of his sufferings, but that German writing habit is very misleading to Anglo-Saxons. You have been publishing gloomy letters from German soldiers for over two years in your newspapers, and yet you find that the Germans come up—I will not say smiling, because they are soldiers who do not do very much smiling nowadays. Certainly they still appear large, and very often quite sufficient, numbers.

The people in general, and the women in particular, talk even more freely than they write. For the purpose of picking up submarine information, I visited Hamburg, Bremen, Lübeck, Stettin, and Danzig, which last was not very useful. Hamburg, Lübeck, and Bremen, plus Berlin, and an occasional railway and steamer companion, yielded sufficient to enable me to give a broad outline sketch of the system of building German submarines, the training of submarine mercantile marine, and the objects of the various submarine policies, of which there are several. Some of these projects seem not to be understood here.

The German submarines are standardized, as I assume, in three types. The draughts and blue prints of the most important machinery are multiplied and sent, if necessary, to 80 different factories, while all the minor stampings are produced at one or other main factory. The "assembling" of the submarines, therefore, is not difficult. During the war submarine parts have been assembled at Trieste, Zebrugg, Kiel, Bremerhaven, Stettin, and half a dozen other places unnecessary to relate.

The improvement, enlargement, and simplification of the submarine has progressed with great rapidity.

TRAINING SUBMARINE CREWS.

When I was in England after my last visit to Germany I met a number of seafolk who had pooled extensive future submarine training, by saying that, no matter how many submarines the Germans might be able to produce, the training of submarine officers and crew was such a difficult task that the "submarine menace," as it was then called in England, need not be taken too seriously.

The difficulty is not so great. German submarine officers and men are trained by the simple process of double or treble banking of the crews of submarines on more or less active service. I think that if I were to talk with your naval authorities I should find that in several submarines you have captured exceptionally large crews. These double or treble crews, who rarely go far away from German waters, and are mostly trained in the safe Baltic, are composed of young but experienced seamen.

From that which I heard directly from the members of a family who have a distinguished submarine officer of their number, the whole of the art or science of submarine is not so difficult as people think it is. Submarine crews are therefore multiplied probably a great deal faster than war destroys them.

The education of submarine officers and crew begins in thorough German fashion on land or in docks, in dummy or disguised submarines accompanied by much lecture work and drill. Submarine life is not so uncomfortable as we think. With the exception of the deprivation of his beer, which is not allowed in submarines, or, indeed, any form of alcohol, except a small quantity of brandy, which is kept under the captain's lock and key, Hans in his submarine is quite as comfortable as Johann in his destroyer. He does not get much opportunity of bathing, which does not trouble him much, though during the last few years the Army and Navy have paid more attention to personal cleanliness than formerly.

I know the kind of extra comforts that are forwarded to submarine men, because I was the witness of the packing of *Liebesgaben* (love parcels, which consisted of gramophone records (mostly Viennese waltzes), chocolate, sausages, smoked eels, margarine, cigars, cigarettes, and tobacco, a small and treasured quantity of real coffee, jam, marmalade, and sugar. All these, I was proudly told, were extras. There was no shortage in the German Navy.

I learned nothing of value about the largest German submarines, except that everybody in Germany knew they were being built, and by the time the gossip of them reached Berlin the impression there was that they were at least as large as Atlantic liners.

SHIPBUILDING SCHEMES.

Now as to the German submarine policies. I read a report the other day in *The Times* by the chairman of the Ericsson Shipping Company (Limited), of Newcastle-on-Tyne. He apparently understands that part of the German submarine policy which is part and parcel of the future German passenger and freight steamer policy.

On this head I picked up very valuable information at Blankensee, a delightful resort of the Hamburgers. The best trip

there forms a convenient opportunity for finding out about part of the colossal passenger and freight shipbuilding programme now in progress in Germany, such as is going on at the Vulkan Works at Hamburg and the Schichau and Vulkan Works at Stettin and the various works at Lübeck. The enthusiastic forget the constantly printed injunction:—

Soldaten!

Vorsicht bei Gesprächen.

Spionengefahr.

and as most Hamburg people know something about ships, they "handed out the goods," as we say in the United States, with loquacious liberality. The German habit of boasting enabled me to gain more and more information. Lying in the river there are the Cap Polonia, which has been finished since the war, and which, I was told, was 20,000 tons, and the Cap Finisterre, also finished since the war, about 16,000 tons. The whole of the extensive yards lining the river are in full activity. The rattle of the pneumatic riveter was as incessant as in any newly building American city.

The two million prisoners, working 12 and 14 hours a day, allow the Germans to retain men in their shipyards who would otherwise be needed for the Army or agriculture. I do not know whether English prisoners are engaged in the shipbuilding yards; the Russians certainly are. I saw English prisoners in huts on the banks of the Weser between Bremen and Bremerhaven, near the shipbuilding yards there, though whether they are actually engaged in the shipbuilding yards I cannot say. Throughout the whole of my long visit I made one rule—that was, never to ask a question in a dangerous atmosphere. On that particular excursion I had no opportunity of putting questions safely.

The National Liberty Party, of which Tirpitz is the god, are at the head of the vast, gradually solidifying mammoth trust, which embraces Krupp's, the mines, shipbuilding yards, and the manufacturers. Now and then a little of its growth leaks out. The other day there leaked out the linking up of Krupp's with the new shipbuilding.

The scheme is brutally simple and is going on under their eyes every day. I see people believe that by building ships *themselves* and *destroying all enemy ships* *themselves*, they will be the world's shipping masters at the termination of the war. In their attitude towards Norwegian shipping, you will notice that they make the flimsiest excuse for the destruction of as much tonnage as they can sink. It was confidently stated to me by a member of that party, and by no means an unimportant one, that Germany is building ships as rapidly as she is sinking them. That I do not believe, but that a great part of her effort is devoted to the construction of mercantile vessels can be ascertained by even a casual traveller in the districts I have named.

The suggestion that the Allies may demand the ships interned in New York harbor, and elsewhere as part of the indemnity fills the average German with genuine alarm. But the National Liberals, who are, of course, the Rightful party—the party that believes in ruthless ill-treatment of prisoners, Zeppelins, submarines, the scattering of poison germs and poisoned sweets, and all the rest of it, exhibit no fear, for they are confident that they can win the war if the Kaiser will permit ruthless submarine warfare.

GERMAN BANKS IN LONDON.

Another part of this party policy is the keeping alive of all German businesses, banks, and others, in enemy countries. Some people here seem to think that the Germans are anxious to keep these businesses alive in order to make money. Many of them regard John Bull as extremely simple, but not so simple as to allow them to do that. So long as the businesses are kept going until after the war, when they can again start out with redoubled energy, they wish for nothing more. The Deutsche Bank, for example, which bears no comparison to an English or American bank, but which is both a political and industrial enterprise promoting institution, is entrenched behind so powerful an Anglo-German backing in London, I was informed on many occasions, that the British Government dare not close it down. The mixture of spying and propaganda with banking, with export, with manufacture, seems so foreign to Anglo-Saxon ways as to be almost inconceivable.

Coincident with the destruction of foreign shipping, the maintenance of their businesses in enemy countries (England and Italy especially) is the exploitation of the coal and other mines, oil wells, I venture to say that when the truth is revealed the French and Belgian coalfields will have been worked as nearly as possible to exhaustion, together with the iron mines at Longwy and Brioux. Poland is being deforested to such an extent that the climate is actually altering.

It is a vast and definite scheme, with such able leaders as Herr Bassermann, the real leader of the National Liberal Party, Herr Stresemann, and Herr Hirsch, of Essen. "We have powerful friends, not only in London, Milan, Rome, Madrid, New York, and Montreal, but throughout the whole of South America, and everywhere except in Australia, where that verdant *Hooget* (Hughes) played into the hands of our so-called leader, von Bethmann Hollweg, by alarming the people that the British people would follow Hughes' lead."

I remember well that my acquaintances in the Berlin Foreign Office gave a great sigh of relief when they learnt that Mr. Hughes had gone back to his kangaroos. He, Viscount Grey, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Asquith, and, if I may say so in his own newspapers, Lord Northcliffe (as he has probably learnt by the perusal of German newspapers), are the most detested people throughout the German Empire.

Bethmann's famous saying that "We shall mobilize for peace as quickly as we mobilized for war" is repeated everywhere by the powerful National Liberal school of thinkers and capitalists with great satisfaction, though Herr Ballin

is not so popular with the National Liberals as he was. He is considered, not as an Anglophile, but as distrustful of the certainty of victory, and selfishly anxious for the future safety of his own phrase reached Germany.

So much for the commercial part of submarine. The Rightfulness policy has been toned down since the sinking of your Channel boat the *Sussex*, with its American passengers. Mr. Wilson's Note on that occasion was effective, but that Rightfulness will be resumed when Germany gets in *extremis* I have no doubt whatever.

Do not imagine that any Germans have any compunction about the drowning of women and children at sea. A few of those who have been in England or the United States go as far as to say, "It is sad, but necessary," but the greater part of Germany cordially endorsed the issue of the Lusitania medal, struck to commemorate the great German defiance of Great Britain and the United States. When I say the greater part, I do not include the countless simple farmers and small folk, who judge the war from their own grievance standpoint, and know no more about ships and shipping than farmers know in England or America. The German majority thinks that if the Allies cannot be fought into peace by the German Army on land and the German Navy at sea, they will be frightened into it by long-distance submarine.

LONG-DISTANCE BLOCKADE.

Submarining close to England has long ceased to be a popular amusement with the German submarine fottis, who have a thoroughly healthy appreciation of the various devices by which you have destroyed so many of them. The National Liberals believe that you will not be able to tackle long-distance submarines operating in the Atlantic and elsewhere. From remarks made to me I do not believe that these submarines have many land bases at great distances—certainly none in the United States. They may have floating bases; but this I do know—that their petrol-carrying capacity altogether exceeds that of any carrier type of submarine, and that their surface speed, at any rate in official tests, runs up to nearly 20 knots.

The trip of the *Deutschland* was not for the purpose of bringing a few tons of nickel and rubber, but for thoroughly testing the new engines (designed by Maybach), for bringing back a hundred reports of the effects of submersion in such cold waters as are to be found off the banks of Newfoundland, for ascertaining how many days' submerged or surface travelling are likely to be experienced, and, indeed, for making a surface trial across the Atlantic and back as was usual in the early days of steamships.

One great fact stands out. The radius of action of the German submarines is increasing almost month by month. The early idea was to have a large number of small submarines around England in a kind of chain, and to effect a blockade that way. The quick-wittedness of your seamen soon devised a scheme to render that project impossible, but that scheme being frustrated, the long distance blockade will most certainly be attempted, and you would, in my opinion, do well to look to your food reserves here, even if only as a precaution.

So much for the Rightfulness and blockade theory of submarine. Almost the whole of the political crises in Germany to-day surround this school of thought. To be ruthless or not to be ruthless? Those who think Germany is certain to win are for ruthlessness. The mob have been carefully deprived of the news of the loss of a submarine, with few exceptions, and cannot understand why you are not being starved out. The leaders know, of course, and believe in the long distance plan. Those who think that Germany will be beaten, and punished for her crimes call out, "Hold, enough. Let us make an honourable peace, get what we can, and not go down to history as barbarians."

Tirpitz nominally leads the ruthless section, backed, of course, by Zeppelin as a minor light, and with the Kaiser cunningly pushing the matter forward. Von Bethmann Hollweg, who paradoxically as it may seem, also has the Kaiser's support, leads the notorious section, that the German Royal Family are very anxious for their personal safety in the event of complete defeat, and many cynical people whisper that the trip of the *Deutschland* across the Atlantic was an experiment as to whether the Kaiser and his family could get safely away from Germany in the event of invasion, an invasion which, by the way, is always to take place through Holland or Denmark. Personally, I believe no such rubbish. The voyage of the *Deutschland* to the United States was a thoroughly practical engineering test, preparation for submarine Rightfulness, on Allied and neutral shipping in the safe waters of the far Atlantic and elsewhere as soon as enough submarines are ready. Watch your own losses and those of Norway. They are already not so negligible if you add them up.—*Times*.

ENEMY BANKS.

In the House of Commons on October 31st, Mr. McKenna said the licences issued to the Deutsche, Dresdner, and Disconto-Gesellschaft and two Austrian banks could not be called licences to trade, inasmuch as the only business consisted of operations necessary to make realisable the assets of the banks available to meet the liabilities of British, Allied, and neutral creditors. Outside this banking business could be done, and none had been done since the outbreak of war. In the case of the Deutsche Bank the licence had been withdrawn. There was not much more to be done in the case of the other two banks, and it was hoped that the licences would be revoked shortly. Mr. McKenna, replying to Sir Henry Dalziel, stated that the professional fee to the Comptroller and his expenses with regard to the various German banks were payable out of the funds of the banks. There was no charge against public funds. The fees received by Sir William Plender for his own services and those of his staff from August, 1914, to June 30th, 1916, were—Deutsche Bank, £1,100; Disconto-Gesellschaft, £260; Dresdener Bank, £260; total, £2,620.

THEN AND NOW.

WOMAN.

There is yet another direction in which our gains have been absolutely incalculable. And we have only begun to value the national blessing, since the War started.

Like the black man in Australia, and the red man in Canada, we have camped for centuries on the gold fields without unclaimed and unused all around us. Like the heathen in his blindness, we have bowed down to wood and stone and failed, till now, to understand and appreciate Nature's greatest gift to man. We have now, at last, found Our Women.

Every man has, naturally, loved and revered his Mother. But, taking his tone from those around him, formed the idea that all other women were, somehow, of a different class.

When the War broke out, and the States called its citizens to arms, the response answered all those who believed, what had been preached from a thousand pulpits, that the Old Country was played out, a back number. It was astonishing under its load of wealth and luxury, the heart of the race still beat strong and sound.

What was the cause of this outburst of enthusiasm? It was not religion. For all practical purposes the Church has been dead for centuries.

When enquiring into this mighty tidal wave of patriotism, it was found that the real source of this mighty tidal wave of patriotism was Woman, that funny creature. Our women, with eyes and minds unobscured by all the wretched bickering, plotting and wrangling of the many miserable parties that make up what is facetiously called, "the political world"—our women saw the awful danger that confronted the State, and acted as one! And at once.

When once crowded into the factories, and shown what was required of them, they, one and all, worked with a frantic energy never before equalled, save by the brave fellows on active service, in the Fire Brigade, the Lifeboats, on the battlefield, or after colliery accidents, when there were lives to be saved—as now!

Nor was this for a few hours only of glorious excitement. It was day shift, and night shift—night shift and day shift—Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Week in, and week out. All the year round.

There are no medals, rewards, promotions, mentions in the *Gazette* in the Munition factories—no music, no cheering, no neat uniforms, only a drab set of stained overalls, and one long monotonous grind at workshop bench, lathe, machine or track, with bruised fingers, strained eyes, and aching limbs, hour after hour, till Mother Nature would stand it no longer, and many of these noble Women fell, fainting, where they stood.

Indeed, it was soon found necessary to appoint medically trained women inspectors to every factory whose duty it was, and in, to watch for any sign of impending collapse on the part of a desist!

In the pre-war labour world, it is difficult to recall any instance where such a precaution was found necessary. Without doubt it is the fixed resolve of the Noble Sex, that every woman in the country will work till she falls blind and paralyzed, before our men at the front want for anything she can make or do for them.

As for the enormous amount of work done, work that can be done only by women, in all branches of Red Cross work, it is beyond all computing, while every woman from nine to ninety has knitted her fingers to the bone sewing and knitting comforts for the brave boys in the wet and cold trenches.

The wisest men among us will own with the deepest regret how difficult it is to suggest any way of even acknowledging, for we can never hope to repay, the debt we owe to the higher sex. True to our masculine instincts, it is as look on the subject from a selfish point of view. How can we get still more benefit from our Sister Women!

For a few years past woman has been induced to take an interest in some branches of our domestic policy. Under the advice of sanitary and medical experts, she has worked most successfully for the benefit of the Race, as all recent improvements show.

We have around us an inexhaustible mine of womanly wisdom, courage, and tenderness. Let us, by every means, increase woman's power for good and sphere of usefulness to the Race. We have seen what woman has done, and is doing, in County Councils and other places. If it will strengthen her position to have the Parliamentary vote, then, the vote she shall have, or her countrymen will know the reason why!

Whether the countrywomen of Boadicea and Elizabeth should be invited to give her opinions on questions of Government, we will not now discuss. We will only remark, that if any clique of women, having the power, could have brought the country into such a deadly perilous state of unreadiness, chaos and anarchy, as the wretched gang of paid, wire-pulling, jobbing, party hacks, did in 1914—well those women must be bunglers indeed!

It is more than doubtful if such a party of women could be found outside of Bedlam. Or for that matter inside!

The foregoing idea may take some time to work out. But there are many other ways, in which we could, now, try to show our appreciation of the splendid assistance our women gave when we wanted it most.

For instance, when some fortunate young man induces a girl friend to accompany him to the theatre, he has the privilege of paying for her admission.

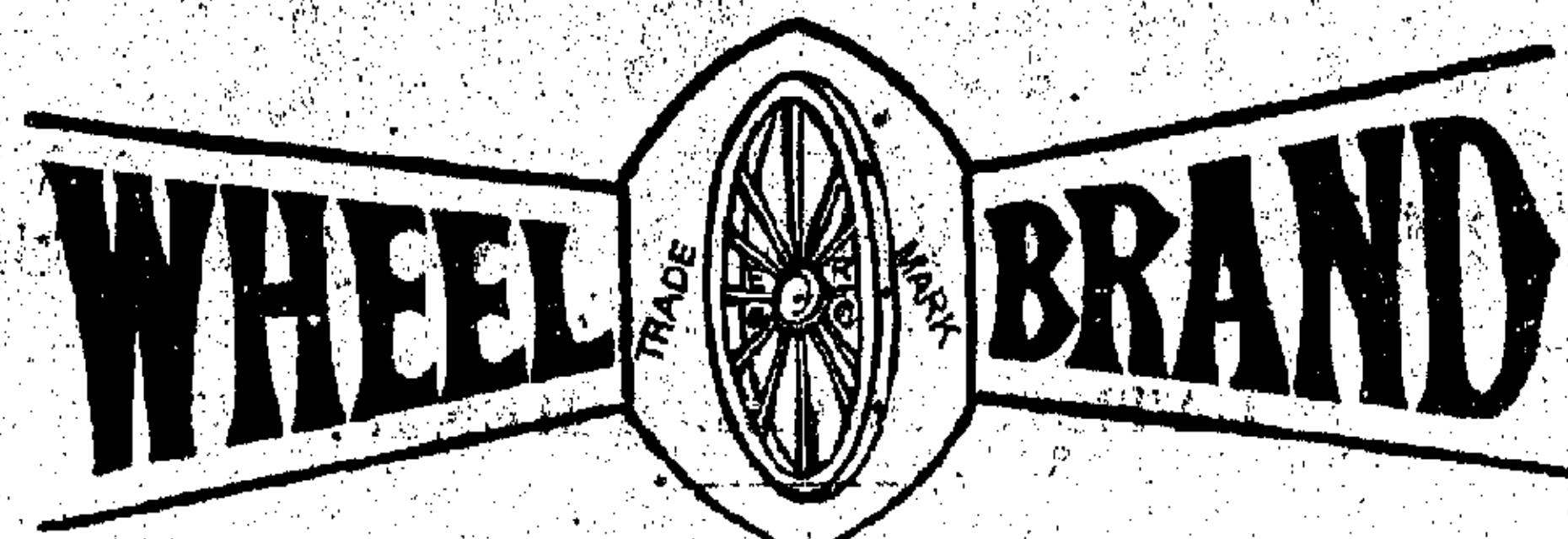
That privilege must be transferred to the State. Every place of public amusement shall be free to woman. Her pencilled initial on an admission card will ensure the same being paid for, full value, by the local authorities.

In most civilized countries, children ride to and from school on public conveyances, free. Henceforth women shall travel free, and first class, on all public conveyances, afloat and ashore.

The pretty laces and things, which she sacrifices by using and wearing, should be provided free, or at bed-rock cost.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

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Should she desire jewellery, then all diamonds and gold-miners, all pearl divers, all goldsmiths and jewellers, shall work overtime to supply her.

Though why she wears these gawgaws is not apparent to the limited male intelligence. For surely no man ever yet looked at a woman's brooch or necklace, while he could see her eyes!

The time has long since arrived, when Cinderella, while not neglecting the kitchen and the nursery, shall be made equally welcome in the drawing room, and the Council Chamber. To the infinite advantage of the Race.—O.

WEATHER REPORT.

On the 4th at 11.25.—Pressure has increased slightly over N. Japan, and the Philippines, and decreased slightly to moderate elsewhere. The continental anticyclone has weakened somewhat, that to the east of Japan the north slowly north-eastward. A depression is moving eastwards across S. Manchuria and pressure is relatively low over the south part of the China Sea.

Fresh to moderate monsoon will prevail over the north part of the China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.60 inch. Total since 1st January, 78.81 inches, against an average of 82.14 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

Direction	Forecast
Hongkong to Gap Rock	(N.E. winds, fresh to mod. rate, fine.
Formosa Channel	N.E. winds, strong.
South Coast of China between Hongkong and Lantau	The same as Hongkong and Lantau. No. 1.
South Coast of China between Lantau and Hainan	The same as Hongkong and Lantau. No. 1.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, 9th Dec.—
Entries close for Wodehouse Cup (Ladies' Foursums, Fencing).
Monday, 11th Dec.—
3 p.m. Auction of Crown Land at Public Works Dept.
Friday, 18th Dec.—
Entries close for Ladies' Championship, E. H. K. Golf Club.
9.15 p.m.—A.D.C. Performances of "Kismet" in aid of "Star and Garter" Fund.



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STERILIZED WOUNDS.

REMARKABLE SUCCESS OF A NEW TREATMENT.

[By "THE TIMES" MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT.]

A lecture on the treatment of wounds, as carried out by Dr. Carrel, the well-known American surgeon who is now working on behalf of the French Army Medical Service, was delivered recently at the Royal Society of Medicine by Dr. O'Neill Sherman, Dr. Sherman, who spoke in the warmest terms of Carrel's work, began by a brief account of the steps which led to the use of a modification of an antiseptic formula recommended by Dr. Dakin and so known as Dakin's Solution. In collaboration with Dr. Dakin, a research laboratory under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation was established at Compiègne in conjunction with Military Hospital No. 21. The work was begun in December, 1914, and completed in June, 1915.

The aim was to improve on the treatment of infected wounds, it being certain that the infection and not the wound was the chief danger. The speaker emphasized this point by references to statements made by eminent authorities to the effect that 75 per cent. of deaths after the first 24 hours are due to infection, 80 per cent. of amputations are due to infection, 95 per cent. of secondary hemorrhage are due to infection. Dr. Carrel laid it down that the sooner treatment was begun after wounding the better for the patient.

The solution used was a modification of Dakin's according to the technique of Daufresne. A careful account of this technique was given. The difference between the original formula and the new one was important. The original solution contained 0.5 per cent. to 0.6 per cent. of sodium hypochlorite; the new solution contained no boric acid and between 0.45 per cent. and 0.50 per cent. of hypochlorite. It was possible, however, that the Dakin's Solution represented but 20 per cent. of the cure and that the technique of Carrel depended on the thoroughness with which the treatment was applied and the care given to every detail.

The technique of Carrel was then described. The wound was cleansed and opened up and then the solution run into it. Ingenious apparatus was used. The solution was then introduced into the wound every two hours by the nurse, who released a stop-cock or control-valve allowing just sufficient solution to enter the wound, bearing in mind that it should be filled, not irrigated. By this means the wounds were rapidly rendered free from infection, and could be stitched up instead of being left open. About 95 per cent. of Carrel's wounds which had been thoroughly sterilized healed at once after being stitched.

The lecturer then dealt with various conditions which the method had been found to be of value, and quoted the experience of surgeons who had employed it. He held that it had been demonstrated that the great majority of wounds could be closed by suture and without suppuration, thereby avoiding many of the sequelae and materially reducing the period of convalescence of the wounded. Under the treatment which he had described the soldiers' stay in hospital was very appreciably shortened, and many now left in from four to six weeks who would have required no less than from three to six months' treatment under former methods. Professor Chutro stated he was now doing one amputation where formerly 20 were necessary, and where there had been 10 deaths there was now only one. These statements were startling, but they bore investigation and made it necessary that every consideration should be given to them from both humanitarian and economic motives. The loss by death or from permanent or partial disability, increased the economic value of every remaining individual. Decrease in earning power was in proportion to the permanent disability sustained, and the mechanist or skilled mechanic who suffered the loss of an arm became doubly a loss to his community—first by reason of the pension to which he was entitled, and secondly by the diminution of his productive capacity.

The employment of the Carrel method and Dakin's Solution shortened convalescence and minimized pain; it appreciably reduced the cost of hospital maintenance and the strain imposed on doctors and nurses.

Dr. Sherman illustrated his lecture by a remarkable series of photographs showing the process of healing in wounds and also described the method of bacteriological control employed to control the work. He demonstrated, Dr. Carrel's very ingenious apparatus for applying the solution. An interesting discussion followed the lecture, which was attended by many well-known British surgeons.

FUTURE OF GERMAN SHIPPING.

On the question of the German shipping trade, the *Westland* says it must not be forgotten that the dockyard now in existence at Hamburg, by building so-called serial steamers—that is, steamers of one and the same type—is capable of considerably increasing the German merchant fleet in a relatively short time, all the more when, for instance, important parts for shipbuilding, especially machinery, are to be manufactured by special firms.

The fact that the General Electric Association in Berlin and the Krupp Electric Works in Essen are to be closely connected with the new dockyard shows us the method chosen for the completion of the German mercantile marine.

"The events taking place at the present time in the German large industries and shipping circles give full assurance that after the war the German shipping trade can be carried on in a thoroughly uniform and rational manner, and that home industries and German foreign trade can pursue their tasks unhindered."

AN AMERICAN'S VIEW OF ALLIES.

VISIT TO THE FRONT.

Mr. Henry W. Anderson, an influential American, and president of the War Relief Association of Virginia, has recently made a tour of the British, French, and Belgian lines on the Western front, as well as paid a visit to a part of the British Fleet, and inspected munition factories in Great Britain. He witnessed the Somme operations in October, and they were the subject of an interview with a representative of the *Daily Telegraph*.

Three strong impressions were left upon my mind (said Mr. Anderson) by my close study of the situation. The first was the readiness of the British authorities to give to the whole position at the front, subject of course, to the reservation as to the improper use of information of military value. I was impressed with this because I did not come for this purpose, and brought no official request that this courtesy should be extended to me. I have talked with a great many officers, who have been frank in their discussion on various matters, but who have carefully refrained from any effort to influence my judgment, leaving me to form my own conclusions. This I took as proof that England is prepared to let the world know what she is doing, and that she is playing her full part in this great struggle.

ORGANIZATION AND CONFIDENCE.

My second impression was the magnificent state of preparedness which Great Britain has attained in every arm of the service in the short period of two years. I was in England when the war broke out, and know something about the unexpectedness of this calamity in this country. At the present time not even the size of the British Army impresses me so much as the completeness of the organization in every respect—the perfection of detail in the training of men for the peculiar nature of the fighting, the extraordinary care shown for the men at the front in the matter of feeding and clothing, the excellent hospital accommodation for the wounded and convalescents. Americans are accustomed to handling large organizations, especially in the construction of railroads, but I have never seen anything compared to the organization in the British Army, and that applies particularly to the transport. I could not have believed that such an army and such organization could have been possible of attainment in two years if I had not seen for myself.

The third impression I received was that on the British front the British Army is in control of the situation—that they are winning. You feel this in the atmosphere. You see it in the faces of the men, even of those who are returning from the trenches. It is manifest in a superior artillery service, which in the sector which I visited far exceeded that of the Germans. But it is manifest most of all in the air service. On the field of the Somme last Sunday (October 15th) the weather was clear. I spent the day there, and saw a large number of British machines constantly going over the German lines, and being unaccountably fired at, and twenty or thirty British and French balloons, but not a single German aeroplane—only four German balloons far behind their lines. The most complete evidence of this control of the air was in the fact that, to my complete surprise, the British troops in camp and the British transport were moving uninterruptedly about within a short distance of the actual front. This would not have been possible had not the British control of the air been complete, and their confidence in it sure.

What I have said under these impressions of the British front applies also to the French. However, I had not an opportunity of studying the conditions there to the same extent, because of the fact that my time was limited, and I was unable to accept their invitation to make an extended trip. The spirit of the French was unconquerable and their army organization and transport seemed to be adequate for every demand. What they have accomplished has surprised and thrilled the world.

A matter that surprised me as much as anything in the British service was the completeness of the intelligence service. Their information, both as to men and guns, appeared to lack nothing.

Turning to munitions, Mr. Anderson stated that he had been through one of the large factories, and commented:

This was a branch of the service with which I was more familiar, as I am interested in manufacturing plants in the United States. The development of the manufacture of munitions and the perfect organization which has been attained here are simply marvellous. I came to England with a feeling of some uneasiness that the heavy fighting and large consumption of ammunition would be beyond the capacity for production. Now I am convinced the other way—I am convinced that no amount of fighting which is probable can consume the munitions as fast as they are produced. To an American like myself, accustomed to the manufacturing organizations of my country, which are very perfect, the completeness and efficiency of the organization established here since the beginning of the war came as a great surprise.

To sum up the impressions which I have received from these extended visits, I would say that I have believed for a long time that the Allies must inevitably win this war. Now I am convinced that the Central Powers are already potentially defeated. While there probably will be a great deal of severe fighting yet, it appears to me to be only a question of time for that potential defeat to be converted into a complete victory for the Allies.

Referring to the subject of America's attitude towards the belligerents, Mr. Anderson observed:

(Continued at foot of next column.)

AIR BOARD CRISIS.

AN UNSATISFACTORY MEETING.

In view of the cable announcement that the Admiralty has decided to appoint an Air Lord, the following excerpt from *The Times* of Nov. 1st is of interest:

Mr. Balfour met about 80 members of the Parliamentary Air Committee, peers and Commons members at the House of Commons yesterday and discussed with them certain aspects of Royal Naval Air Service.

Mr. Ashley, who presided, asked Mr. Balfour to deal with the suggestion of the committee that an Air Lord should be added to the Board of Admiralty. Mr. Balfour, while expressing sympathy, pointed out certain difficulties. Several questions were put to Mr. Balfour, but his replies did not carry the committee very much further.

ADMIRALTY OPPOSITION.

From what can be gathered as to the result of the meeting, there seems reason to believe that the attitude adopted by Mr. Balfour was extremely unsatisfactory to the Parliamentary Air Committee.

The Admiralty appears to have steadily maintained its opposition to any change in the existing state of things. There seems to be no present hope of an acceptance of the points to which we referred yesterday—namely, a large recognition of the Air Service and a closer association with the Ministry of Munitions. All that Mr. Balfour had to say on the latter point seems to have been that the Air Department of the Admiralty was constantly discussing matters with the Ministry of Munitions. But so is the Royal Flying Corps. What is required is that their "discussions" should be co-ordinated. Until that is done, and until the practice of placing orders independently is abandoned, it is impossible for the utmost output of aircraft to be attained. There seems to be inadequate recognition of the fact that engines, the crux of the whole problem, are composed of parts produced by a number of different makers and assembled by the nominal makers of the engines. Without a very close acquaintance of the Ministry of Munitions with the joint demands of the two Air Services, it is difficult to see how the work can be most efficiently distributed among the factories controlled by the Ministry. The matter will certainly not be allowed to rest where it is.

The following resolution was passed yesterday by the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Air Committee:

In view of the discussion which took place at the meeting of the Parliamentary Air Committee at the House of Commons to-day, the Executive Committee unanimously reaffirms its strong conviction that the Air Board should be given more extended and immediate executive power for the development of both Air Services.

Meanwhile, it is believed that matters between the Air Board and the Admiralty are approaching a climax and resignations are said to be impending unless a satisfactory solution of the present situation can be found.

THE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS.

Parents and relatives of thirty-four conscientious objectors who were sentenced to death in France, and have returned to England to serve their commuted sentences of ten years' penal servitude, have, says the *Daily Express*, sent a letter to Mr. Asquith and other Ministers pleading that the men have proved the genuineness of their convictions, and should be set free.

It is difficult to ascertain the feeling of a nation of 100 millions, and composed of people of various nationalities, and therefore of various sympathies, but I should say a fair estimate would place 60 (or two-thirds) per cent. as a minimum of the American people amongst the strongly pro-Ally, and that this larger percentage desire to see the Allies win the war. In my own State of Virginia 55 per cent. would be nearer the mark. One thing has probably been misunderstood in Europe as the Pro-German element. It must be realized that the pro-German minority is very much more noisy than the great pro-Ally majority; that Germany has conducted an extensive propaganda with a view to creating pro-German feeling, and also to give an impression that the pro-Germans are in the majority. As a matter of fact, pro-German sentiment is substantially confined to the people of Germany and Austria and origin, and more especially to recent immigrants. There has never been a moment when any American imagined that there could be any serious difference between any of the Allied countries and the United States, but there have been many times when we have been on the verge of war with Germany, and at least a time when the *Lusitania* was sunk—when, I think, a very considerable majority of the people, though averse to war on principle, favoured action to redress that brutal crime and prevent its recurrence. It is also very significant that there are thousands of American volunteers in the Allied Armies, and that voluntary contributions for relief work in Allied countries have been very large—far in excess of what is commonly known. Necessarily, under the conditions, the burden of the situation falls upon Great Britain through her control of the seas, but the sources of irritation are largely technical. I think there is a large and growing sentiment in the United States that it is in the interest of both our countries, and in keeping with their common ideals, that their relations should grow closer and more friendly as time advances. Both countries are ruled by law, and believe in the same principles, and they ought to work hand-in-hand for their mutual benefit and for the higher civilization of the world.

HINDENBURG ON THE OUTLOOK.

READY FOR A THIRTY YEARS' WAR.

"NO THOUGHT OF PEACE."

Marshal von Hindenburg has made use of an interview with a correspondent of the *Vienna Neue Freie Presse* to present his view of the present military position, and particularly to belittle the significance of the Anglo-French victories on the Somme. His observations are of the usual propagandist type, and his object of creating ill-feeling between us and our French Ally is scarcely veiled.

In the whole interview, however, there is no word of a victorious German offensive. Hindenburg and his Chief of Staff, General von Ludendorff, who was with him, speak only of being able to hold their own.

In the summary of the interview sent by Reuter's correspondent Hindenburg says:

"The position of the war is as favourable as it possibly could be, and all will continue to be well. It is nonsense to assert that it is my intention to shorten the Western front. Why should I do this? Our front in the West is as firm as it could be, and though the enemy have been able to gain a little ground by means of a gigantic display of artillery and ammunition, he will never break through. To do this he would have to attack for another 30 years, provided then that he had sufficient men. The battle of the Somme is costing our enemies many hundreds of thousands of men, and therefore more than it is costing us."

Asked whether the French could much longer stand their terrible losses, the Field-Marshal replied:

"The French are showing great tenacity, but they are destroying themselves by their method of fighting. Even their tenacity will be of no avail to them because in the final none of them will be left. The French people may thank the British for this. The French called the British to their assistance, and the assistance which they give is that they are forcing the French to destroy themselves."

A great portion of the French Army has perished in the Somme offensive. Should the British in the spring demand a new offensive of the same sort they will deprive France of the rest of her Army and of her national strength. We do not mind. It is singular that the French do not realize how much their Ally is costing them.

"This war will cause little change in the opinion held of British military achievements. Great strategists are especially lacking now on the British side."

Regarding the operations on the Transylvanian front, von Hindenburg said:

"Everything is going splendidly there. The Rumanians, who are retreating, are getting their deserts. I welcomed their attack with pleasure, because this has ended for us the war of positions."

WILL NEXT YEAR DECIDE?

According to *The Times* Correspondent in Amsterdam, the interviewer, Herr Goldmann, inquired, "How long will the war last?" Hindenburg replied:

"That depends upon our opponents. Prophecy is thankless, and it is better to abandon it in wartime. It is possible that 1917 will bring battles that will decide the war, but I do not know, and nobody knows. I only know we will fight to a decision."

General von Ludendorff, Hindenburg's right man, interjected: "We do not think of peace. We are absolutely determined to continue fighting, as is fully clear from all the measures of the Central Powers and the military commands. Hindenburg inquired about the popular feeling in Austria, and Herr Goldmann replied that it was good and confident, but, as everywhere, they desired an end of the war. Hindenburg remarked:

"We all desire that, and I can well understand it. The Austro-Hungarians did their full duty in this war, and made all the heavy sacrifices necessary. But fresh sacrifices must still be made in order that the previous ones may not have been made in vain."

General von Ludendorff observed: "Tell your Austrian friends that there is only one way to shorten the war—namely, by the firm determination to win it. Every soldier and civilian must help in the war and be conscious of the fact that war is the only way to peace. The whole national strength must be enlisted in the service of the war. I take as an example ammunition. It is not, indeed, the spirit of the troops which produces the final decision, and the spirit of the German and Austro-Hungarian soldiers is superior to that of all opponents. Yet ammunition in modern warfare has enormous importance. The making of ammunition is the most important task of the conduct of the war, but this maximum quantity must really represent the absolute maximum of our capacity."

"The whole energies of the country must be put into the making of ammunition. Our enemies are doing it, and we must do it too. In one of your former visits, Field-Marshal von Hindenburg said, 'That is true. Discipline depends on the thorough training of the individual soldier, and one of the chief tasks is ceaseless work at this. All omissions in peace can be made good in war. It is never too late for training troops. Work must never cease. Training must be thorough and touch every detail.'"

HINDENBURG'S "PERHAPS."

The correspondent asked: "Is there any prospect of ending the war by a decisive stroke?" Hindenburg replied: "Perhaps. The development of the conditions must show that, but I should not like to express a definite opinion on Archangel and Vladivostok."

(Continued at foot of next column.)

BARBAROUS TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.

M. RENAULT'S INDICTMENT OF GERMANY.

If the neutral world has yet anything to learn with regard to the barbarous treatment reserved by Germany for the unhappy captives who fall under her iron heel let it read "The Treatment of Prisoners of War in France and Germany from the point of view of International Conventions" (says *The Times*, Paris correspondent). M. Louis Renault, member of the Institute of France, one of the world's most eminent international lawyers and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, has been fifty entrusted with the task of drawing up this sober report. He says:—

"The French régime was at first purely and simply in conformity with prescribed regulations and rules, then it had to be modified, as a more humane treatment of our countrymen could only be obtained by the withdrawal of certain facilities at first granted to German prisoners in France."

FRENCHMEN FORCED TO WORK AT KRUPPS.

"If one desires to realize the excesses to which our countrymen have only too often been subjected, let him read the pages wherein the most atrocious facts from the material and moral standpoint are recorded, the sad determination to humiliate and debase unhappy prisoners, or again the forcing of prisoners to work in mines when totally unfitted for such a task, as was certified by delegates to the Geneva International Committee. From the moral point of view it is at once revolting and contrary to international rule that prisoners should be set to do tasks of a military character, yet over 1,500 Frenchmen were forced to work for Krupps at Essen."

Documentary evidence covering nearly 100 pages is given of the humane treatment of German prisoners in France. Then follows a description of the conduct of Germany.

HORRORS OF GERMAN CAMPS.

"At Celle, Heuberg, Landslut, and Sonnenburg, sometimes on Sundays the camp is visited. Long lines of sightseers come and mock the prisoners. A school-master and his scholars come and sing around the camp. Humiliating formalities are repeated, such as roll calls and degrading search of the person. The men are treated like things. At Landslut the officers accompanied by sentinels visit the huts with loaded revolver in hand. At Altenagrabow, on the very day of Christmas, a soldier of the Eighth Chasseurs was bayoneted because he did not come out when ordered. At Ohrdruf, near Berlin, a colonial was bayoneted in the heart for not understanding an order. At the same camp and at Würzburg and Cassel Niederwehren during an alleged uproar in the first case, and during a concert in the second, and a boxing match in the third, there were bayonet charges resulting in killed and wounded."

"In the matter of punishments the post is one of the cruelest. The book, which is excellently illustrated, gives a picture of one at Ohrdruf. The prisoner is tied round the ankles and waist with his hands behind his back to a post generally placed outside the huts facing the sun in summer and the snow in winter. At Königsbrück he must remain on tiptoe, and at Glatz on his feet not touching the ground. Thus are punished for two hours, for four hours, and for days at a time, men accused of smoking in a hut, for not properly saluting an officer, or for attempting to slack. Prisoners have died at this stake. There are plenty of other fiendish tortures undreamt of by a Fenimore Cooper savage, such as placing a prisoner bareheaded on a tarred roof in the blazing sunshine."

The book concludes with these proud words:—"Before the opinion of neutrals and before history France claims the honour of having affirmed and safeguarded the principles consecrated by the universal conscience."

Mme. Karen Bramson, the Danish writer, who has been conducting an impartial inquiry into tuberculosis among French prisoners now in Swiss sanatoria, declares in the *Matin* that Germany will never clear herself by any sophistry of her disgraceful treatment of war prisoners.

The subject. It is obvious that at Tannenberg it was easier for me to deliver a decisive blow than now when in the East alone we have to hold a long front from the Dvina to the Black Sea. But nothing is impossible."

Herr Goldmann asked whether the Russian masses will exhaust themselves, and Hindenburg replied:—

"They are already exhausting themselves. The Russian generals chiefly provide for that. It is true that a younger generation is springing up, but that makes no difference. We also have men enough. Germany has plenty of reserves; and in Austria-Hungary the reserves are far from being exhausted. We have never feared the great numbers of the Russians. We recognize no numerical superiority."

Ludendorff added:—"Numerical superiority as a danger exists only for weak people. He who blames fate should rather blame himself. The man of strong will is master of his own destiny."

Hindenburg observed:—"The new Russian Armies are as good and as bad as the old ones. The best quality of the Russian soldier remains his blind obedience. He has made no progress in a military sense. Only the Russian artillery has become more effective, thanks to teaching by French and Japanese officers, who in some cases actually command it. But even now our German and Austro-Hungarian artillery is superior. For one period the Russians had more ammunition than formerly. Now their supplies of ammunition have diminished, and as soon as the winter comes they will be unable to receive ammunition by Archangel and Vladivostok."

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